# The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1909.

## The Week.

President Roosevelt is at his best in his veto of a bill granting monopolistic rights in a river in Missouri, and in his exposition of the sound policy of the government in dealing with the preservation and use of water power. It is possible that he a little exaggerates the danger of a combination to control all the hydro-electric resources of the country. Still, the possibility of abuse which he dwells upon is very real, and the need of adopting some such general and far-reaching plan as he proposes is urgent. Franchises in perpetuity for public-service corporations should now be thought as obsolete as the dinosaurus. The limited term, the vigilant oversight, the regulation, the revocation on breach of conditions—these are the new ideas about corporations dealing in public utilities, and they have come to stay. President Roosevelt is quite right in contending that the mistakes of the past in giving away rights in the country's natural resources should not be repeated in the immensely important matter of generation of electricity from water-power.

---

That the President, for all his love of the military and his championship of the fighting spirit, leaves office without regrets from the army, is the assertion of the *Army and Navy Register* in its current issue:

> His successor cannot do more to injure military discipline and create discontent in the personnel than has been accomplished by the present head of the nation.

As evidence of the kind of action that has brought about Mr. Roosevelt's unpopularity in the army, the *Register* cites the assignment to active duty of Lieut.-Col. Edgar A. Mearns of the retired list during his trip to Africa with the President. As to that, the *Register* says:

> Mr. Roosevelt has no more right to have this retired officer assigned to such duty with him after March 4 than he has to assign any other retired army or navy officer to accompany a private citizen who chooses to travel for his health or excitement, at home or abroad.

It might have added that this course is wholly in keeping with Mr. Roosevelt's use of United States war vessels as private yachts, not only for himself, but for members of his family. The *Register* is also excited over the assignment to the fine new army billet, that of paymaster at Honolulu, of Major Beecher B. Ray, the "political paymaster," who was given leave of absence to work for Mr. Taft's nomination and election during the greater part of 1908. The extent and usefulness of Major Ray's "pull" are hardly surpassed in the army to-day—and this under the administration of an ardent believer in the merit system.

---

Under the prodding of the House Committee on Military Affairs, the War Department, which has been asking for 612 additional army officers, has suddenly discovered that there is another way out of the dilemma, and has drafted a bill permitting it to place in active service 250 retired officers. This is precisely what the *Nation* has been suggesting. The War Department feels, however, that it must have the right peremptorily to order these 250 men to active duty; hence its appeal for legislation. The War Department ought certainly to have complete authority over its retired officers. They should in time of peace or war be at the disposition of the Secretary for such light duty as they may be capable of performing. Probably 400 retired officers are too old or physically too disabled to perform any duty; but many of the others would be grateful for active work, and the difference between active and retired pay would mean a good deal to them. The navy has found it desirable to keep on active duty a number of retired officers; surely, of the nine army officers ordered up for retirement on Friday last because they could not ride ninety miles, there must at least be eight capable of serving as recruiting officers, of teaching in schools, and doing other useful work for which active officers are now employed. From the point of view of economy there will be a great saving to the government if the new bill passes. But what Congress ought to insist on is that, besides using retired officers, unnecessary service away from regiments should be abolished. Why should there be infantry and cavalry officers in addition to engineers and medical officers, on duty with the Panama Canal? Why should there be thirteen active officers guarding Indian prisoners and running army prisons?

---

Mr. Taft's Atlanta speech last week was in excellent taste, and in spirit thoroughly in consonance with the occasion. Southern hospitality, ever generous, was at its best, and no one can doubt that it was actuated only by genuine good-will for the next President. Mr. Taft took the opportunity to dwell upon the desirability of a strong opposition party in local and State governments, "a substantial and intelligent minority which may become a successful majority," when abuses must be rectified. Not one of his listeners could dispute that truth. With the negro disfranchised, the South suffers gravely from the dominance of one party, for that carries with it the danger of control by cliques, the loss of public interest in public affairs, widespread indifference to the value of the ballot, and, thus, the opportunity of the demagogue to play upon prejudice and passion in default of a real issue. While it is true that the South is more tolerant than it used to be of those who differ with its pet opinions, Mr. Taft went too far in saying that the expression of any political view in the South no longer exposes him who voices it to possible ostracism; but Mr. Taft is quite correct in believing that his stay in the South will make for the growing independence of speech and political tolerance. So, too, beyond all doubt, will his administration.

---

> The negro voters of Atlanta are entitled to the appreciation of the public for the high sense of citizenship they exhibited yesterday in supporting Mr. Maddox and the cause of good morals.

This high praise of the colored voter, from Hoke Smith's newspaper, the Atlanta, Ga., *Journal*, appeared immediately after the recent mayoralty election in that city. This *Journal* is the same newspaper which, under the malign influence of Gov. Smith, had been dwelling on the evils resulting, not from negro domination, but from negro attendance at the polls. It brought out all the

NOV 2 1909

Reference Collection
Lee College Library
Baytown, Texas

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

familiar arguments as to the necessary dominance of the white race, the untrustworthiness, ignorance, and general unworthiness of the black man. Yet when the negro came to cast his last vote before being disfranchised, he allied himself squarely with the reform elements and aided in defeating for reelection the drunkard who had been Mayor for some time past. If they were all that the *Journal* has painted them, the colored citizens of that city would have voted overwhelmingly for the defeated candidate. If the Georgia negro is disfranchised now, he has, at least, had another chance to give the lie to the white politicians who, for their own base ends, have so often maligned him.

---

Mr. Root's election to the Senate is accompanied by no signs of enthusiasm. This is partly because it has so long been certain. We get excited only over what is doubtful. New York is, of course, very glad to get, instead of Platt, a man of the new Senator's ability. For sheer intellectual quality, he has impressed himself upon good judges in Washington, both Americans and foreigners, beyond any man in public life. That he has a sort of austere pride of bearing, which the politicians resent as "coldness," does no injury to Mr. Root with the judicious. Yet the fact that he is not a slap-you-on-the-back statesman undoubtedly accounts, in part, for the lack of popular acclaim over his new honor. In addition, there is the fact that his choice was imposed upon the Republican party of the State from without. Roosevelt and Taft had far more to do with it than Assembly or Senate at Albany. Finally, to be entirely frank, there has been an uneasy feeling in this city and State that Mr. Root might have sat for the portrait which the President drew in his speech at Harvard, when he spoke of eminent lawyers who put their great abilities at the service of unprincipled speculators desiring to violate the law. This disquiet alone would have been enough to prevent Mr. Root's election, had there been a direct primary for the Senatorship.

---

Mr. Burton's election as Senator from Ohio is passing with little comment. Americans take their blessings quietly. Mr. Burton, be it said, owes his success to neither machine nor millions. His promotion is in line with the older and better tradition about the Senatorship, which made it the due reward of faithful service as Representative or as Governor. There is nothing showy about Mr. Burton. He has long been a student, a hard-working member of the House, in which he has come to have great authority, and has established a reputation for poise, good judgment, and independence. The accession of such a man to the Senate is cause for congratulation, not to Ohio alone, but to the whole country.

---

The liquor dealers who announced, at a recent convention, that the agitation against their trade was rapidly subsiding, were trying mental science for their woes. Anti-saloon crusades seem to be still gathering force. State-wide prohibition was decreed last week by the Tennessee Legislature, and may perhaps be upheld over the veto just filed by the Governor. Texas politicians, including Senator Bailey, are seeking to avoid the issue by having the question referred to the people. In several States, brewers have besought the courts to declare liquor legislation confiscatory, but the request has been denied. The Alabama law has just been declared constitutional, and Georgia is construing hers so strictly that even newspaper advertisements of strong drink will, as the view runs, be impossible. If all this is not enough to wake the dealers from their self-imposed hallucination, we may add the prospect of a lively campaign for local option at Albany.

---

The acquittal of T. J. Hains brings up anew the question whether the morals of New York are any better than those of a frontier mining camp. Here was a man who once before had taken human life. Beyond all doubt, while his brother committed one of the coldest-blooded murders ever known in this city, he stood by and prevented any attempt to stop the shooting. If he was not *particeps criminis* in the first degree, then there is no such thing as being an accomplice. But apparently the jury disagreed; two of its members were sick, and finally, in order to obtain release from confinement, they, or some others, weakly yielded and agreed on a verdict of not guilty. This result is another evidence of the weakness of our jury system under the strain of popular hysteria in regard to certain crimes, and the long-drawn-out terrors of a "famous" trial. It is only fair to say, however, that the whole fault in this instance does not rest with the jury. The District Attorney so handled his case as to demonstrate unfitness. If Capt. Hains shall now escape on the ground of insanity, New York may well hang out a sign: "Murderers Welcomed and Encouraged." The evidence in the Hains trial ought to open many people's eyes to the folly of asserting that in a case of this kind the sole blame rests upon the man who, to use the current cant, "ruthlessly breaks up the home." Behind the "unwritten law" is this unexorcised belief of the middle ages, that, before the wrongdoer, the woman in the case is as helpless as a rabbit in a snake's cage. We have no defence to offer, Heaven knows, for the home-wrecker; we simply assert that the disposition to hold him solely responsible is a relic of the days when woman was an economic slave, who had no mind or moral standards of her own. But in this day and generation society cannot excuse her as if she were without free will or responsibility. If, therefore, we are going to adopt "the unwritten law" in this city, it ought to apply to both the guilty parties, and to be frankly put on the statute books. As matters now stand, any New Yorker who lifts his voice against lawlessness, South or West or East, must face the immediate *tu-quoque* of the Hains trial.

---

The placing on the European markets, this week, of a Russian government loan for $275,000,000 has an interesting bearing both on politics and on finance. The mere fact of these enormous loans to the Russian Treasury is an important factor in Russian politics. From the time the first Duma was convoked, it has been recognized at St. Petersburg, both by crown and parliament, that so long as the Czar and his Ministers retained the right to raise money on the public credit, just so long would the hands of the Duma be tied. To realize the significance of this authority, one has only to imagine Charles the First, for instance in control of the machinery for pledging England's credit to secure funds from foreign markets, and with those markets ready and anxious to make the loan. Re-convocation of a hostile Parliament might eas-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

ily have been unnecessary; "ship money" would have been superfluous; and a series of bond issues, say, at Paris, might conceivably have bridged over 1640 and left the members of the Long Parliament to idle away their time and energy at home. It is through this power over the public credit, jealously guarded against attacks from the Duma, that autocracy has intrenched itself, even after the grant of Parliamentary discussion.

---

In the present case politics and finance have in turn conspired to influence the fortunes of the undertaking. The loan was apparently contemplated, with a view to meeting the constant and heavy deficits of Imperial finances, as long ago as the autumn of 1906. The strain which then existed on the whole world's capital resources, which forced the London bank rate up to 6 per cent., and which drove our own great corporations out of the bond market and into the market for short-term loans at high rates on their notes-of-hand, blocked the plans of Russia also. Then, too, nothing whatever could be done in the world-wide disorder of credit in the markets of 1907. With credit repaired and money easy after the liquidation of that period, plans for the Russian loan were laid again last summer; but the trouble in the Balkans, and the threat of open war among European states, again caused the bankers to withdraw. The announcement of the loan, the over-subscription of the part allotted to London, and the practically assured success of the Paris allotment, are evidence that both financial and political misgivings have largely passed away. But the fact of so enormous a requisition on its credit facilities leaves open the question how long this Russian borrowing can continue. Germany, a state in far higher standing on the money markets, has taken warning from the heaping-up of debt whereby future generations shall be charged with payment for the extravagances of the hour, and is maturing plans for laying the burden on the shoulders of present-day taxpayers. Sooner or later, the Russian government must do the same, and it is possible that then, as was the case in the Reichstag of a month ago, the Duma will find voice again.

---

Admiral Rozhestvensky, who died in St. Petersburg last week, deserved something more than the sympathy he won as the defeated commander in the world's greatest naval battle since Trafalgar. The thoroughness of his defeat was not necessarily an index of his skill. The circumstances of naval warfare are such, especially in modern times, that there may be no alternative between victory and annihilation. It was different with the Russian forces on land, where Kuropatkin could survive such enormous disasters as Liao-Yang, Sha-ho, and Mukden, and even turn them to advantage in schooling and hardening his troops. To Rozhestvensky no trials of strength were open, and he was compelled to meet Togo's seasoned forces with a hastily gathered fleet, manned by untrained land levies, badly officered and equipped. The celebrated episode with the North Sea trawlers shows in what a state of nerves this last despairing Armada of Russia's left the Baltic. The published journal of the chief engineer of the fleet, Politovsky's "From Libau to Tsushima," shows the state of apprehension in which men and officers alike went forward to meet their fate. To have brought such a conglomeration of fighting ships some eighteen thousand miles safe to the scene of battle was no slight achievement.

---

Affairs in the Balkans enter on a distinctly brighter phase with the conclusion of an agreement between Austria-Hungary and Turkey regarding the annexation of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Elements of unrest still remain. Monetary arrangements between Turkey and Bulgaria are still to be concluded, though there is little doubt of a final settlement. The people of Servia and Montenegro continue to chafe, but at present they have only Russia's somewhat obscure sympathy to count upon. Whatever support they may find among the other Powers will surely not go to the extent of tolerating action that may threaten war. After all, it was Turkey that was the injured party in the whole affair, and with Turkey now definitely for peace, such chances of an outbreak as may have existed are greatly reduced. The meeting of a conference is now more probable than ever. It is true that the conference will find little to do except to ratify what the interested parties have already decided upon among themselves. But if it is only the fear of what a conference might force her to do that has made Austria willing to come to terms, the calling of one has already been justified.

---

From England it is reported that public taste has been turning strongly to Dickens, Thackeray, George Eliot, and other writers who are believed to have done some meritorious work during the first half of the Victorian era. For such a revival, which, we trust, actually exists outside the imagination of some enterprising journalist, there would be ample justification. As against the modern realists who, largely recruited from among the women, have gone in strongly for highly-seasoned compounds of passion, politics, and sociology, we should be going back to the comprehensive sweep and masterful handling which makes of the great Victorian novel a little world, and not a "problem"—a world that cries and laughs, instead of whimpering and cackling, over large things like life, death, love, hunger, duty, pity, anger, and not the nerves of a young girl who was not brought up well or the "claims" of a woman who does not know what she wants. On the ground of economy the elder writers should be favored. Publishers unblushingly call upon us to pay $1.50 for a novel that will help us wile away half an hour on a rainy day, or for just the story that goes with a hammock under the trees. Even though the original volumes of "Our Mutual Friend" or "Vanity Fair" or "Middlemarch" cost three or four times the fixed price of the present-day novel, there can be no comparison between the actual amount of protein, fat, carbohydrates supplied by one of Dickens's volumes and one of our modern tales. "Our Mutual Friend" has a better plot and mystery than most contemporary detective stories; more dramatic action than the great mass of cowboy, railway-accident, and sea fiction; more humor—that goes without saying—than any living author, with one possible exception, can now supply; more political satire than our novels of "uplift" about honest district attorneys and dishonest Congressmen; more truth about the slums than our ordinary novel of low life. When you balance accounts, it is Dickens that will turn out the lower-priced fare.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

*FREAKS OF RACE PREJUDICE.*

There has been considerable stir over the anti-Japanese bills laid before the California Legislature; and in an address in Washington on Monday, as well as in his telegram to Gov. Gillette, President Roosevelt has made a fresh demand for a "square deal" for the Japanese. Apparently, the matter is now to be threshed over again in the terrifying headlines of the sensational press. But a recent investigation by the Federal Bureau of Labor shows how little basis there is for the demagogue's frequent assertion that his opposition to the Japanese is neither blind nor selfish, but can stand the test of facts and logic. Two non-Aryan races are "invading" the Pacific Slope; from the West the Japanese, and from the South the Mexican Indians. Here is an ideal opportunity to show that race prejudice is rational.

The man from Nippon is of inferior stock, the Californian says, just as bad as "the dirty Chink." His personal habits, his morals, and his general view of life are so far below the American that they menace our society. But we hear no such charge brought against the "cholos," who have been pouring into the State. They are the lowest Mexican Indians, one degree removed from savagery. The Federal Bureau of Labor describes them as "Indians in physique, temperament, character, and mentality; unambitious, physically weak, irregular, and indolent." Their mode of life is evidently no better than that of the Chinese. "They are prejudiced against water, believing that washing causes fever." In the large filthy Mexican quarter of Los Angeles twenty-four men were found inhabiting one small, dark room. Surely, the Japanese could fall no farther below our standards.

But the yellow man has another fault; not only is he inferior, but, declares the Californian, he cannot and will not become Americanized. Supremely content with his own ways, he herds with his kind, lives in the old way, sends his earnings to Japan, and eventually follows them thither. But in this respect the yellow men is like the red man. Our government investigators find that the Mexican immigrant is a tramp laborer who comes north to pick up a few dollars, and, that done, returns to spend it in his cheap fatherland. He is "nomadic and outside of American civilization." He does not mingle socially with others:

> Intermarriage is rare, and when it occurs it seems to be a subject of apology. . . . The Mexican does not put himself forward or seek white society. He observes his own canons of reserve and dignity, which are never offensive.

The favorite objection to the Japanese is, however, that he underbids the American. In this respect he and the "cholo" are again brothers. Indeed, the Mexican plays the game even more sharply. In Texas he is displacing the negro on farm and cottonfield. In California, railway managers, ranchmen, and city contractors are giving him preference over Italians, Russians, Greeks, and Japanese, because he asks less, and is more easily controlled. He is particularly welcomed in some quarters, because he does not join labor unions and is always ready to turn strike-breaker. The Southern Pacific Railway is said to pay its Greek section hands $1.60 a day, the Japanese $1.45, and the "cholos" only $1.25. The two former nationalities hang together, an offence against one being taken as against all; but a Mexican will not leave his job for anybody else's grievance.

If, under these circumstances, the 7,000 Japanese who entered this country in 1908 are a national menace, what can be said of an annual influx of from 80,000 to 100,000 Mexicans? It is perfectly clear that the rational Japanophobe should hate the "cholo" with burning fury. But the Bureau of Labor says:

> The race sentiment of Americans toward Mexicans is . . . peculiar and illogical. . . . Organized labor, and white workers in general, do not appear to be opposed to Mexicans in the same way that they are to Orientals. . . . The American negro considers himself above the Mexican, and yet the latter receives more social recognition from the white man. . . . Mexican immigrants ride in white cars in Texas, and might eat at the same table with Americans.

In Los Angeles, Mexican children, to the number of 1,000, sit in the same school classes with American pupils and without discrimination. Their parents may do whatever Boston-born persons might, if they have the money. And as in Los Angeles, so everywhere between Galveston and Seattle.

Is half a continent, then, naïvely inconsistent or disingenuous? Some frank confessions force the latter answer upon us. An editor of a labor paper says: "The Mexicans don't trouble us much. They can't do a white man's work." And railroad bosses without number point out two differences between Mexican and Japanese redounding greatly to the former's popularity. The Mexican, they say, is unskilled and remains so, while the "Jap" swiftly masters a trade or business. Again, the "cholo" can be led about like a lamb, but the miserable Oriental always has an eye open toward his rights and opportunities. And there the cat is out of the bag. The Japanese is feared for his virtues, without which he could scarcely be distinguished from the Mexican.

*THE GERMAN TAX FIGHT.*

"We must be inspired by the categorical imperative of a burning, I might say, a passionate love of country," declared Herr Sydow, the German Imperial Minister of Finance, in concluding the first day's debate on the government's new tax proposals. It was a sign of the doubts he himself entertained as to the success of his campaign in the Reichstag, that he should thus early resort to the familiar trick of asking blind patriotism to take the place of calm reason and financial sagacity. But the Reichstag, though yet unable to follow up its success in bringing Kaiser and Chancellor to book in relation to foreign affairs, has not been willing to vote offhand as Sydow wished. It reassembled last week for the second stage of the financial discussion which bids fair to stretch throughout the whole winter; for during the recess the Finance Committee has accomplished nothing—*Ulk* pictures its members in night-gowns sleeping soundly—and the general parliamentary outlook is far from reassuring.

Not that the country is asleep. It has aroused itself against the new and radical taxes with a vigor that had hardly been expected. "Protests spring up everywhere like weeds," says the Munich *Neueste Nachrichten*, in commenting on the discouraging delay in dealing with the issue. Under the severe criticism of the important Commercial Diet, which met in Berlin early in December, hardly a proposal of Sydow's remained unscathed, and chambers of commerce throughout the Empire, taking their cue from that body, have assailed this or that tax. Societies, city governments, and local legis-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

latures are deluging the members of the Reichstag with protests, and popular mass meetings in all sections are voicing anew the old prayer to St. Florian: "Spare my house, set fire to other people's homes!" Before this popular uprising the proposed taxes on gas and electricity and that on newspaper advertisements have already gone by the board. The Commercial Diet opposed the advertising tax because the yield would be too small to outweigh the disadvantages, and because the inevitable result would be the printing of advertisements as reading matter. The proposals regarding gas and electricity were shown to be unworkable; they would, it is believed, not only impede industrial development, but cause the poorer classes to return to petroleum for reading. Both taxes were declared to be unscientific and unworthy of a far-sighted statesmanship. As for the new death-duties, which radically interfered with the right of inheritance, they are believed to have perished in the Reichstag itself, the Conservative and Centre parties having together provided coffin and headstone. Becker, the Centre leader, positively asserted, in Cologne recently, that these sections of the bill would be promptly interred "if the Centre and the Conservatives only stood firm," and there is every reason to believe that they will. Yet Herr Sydow had counted on an income of no less than $43,750,000 from this source, and from the levies on electricity, gas, and advertising. As if this setback were not sufficiently serious, well-informed men believe that the Minister of Finance will also lose his proposed monopoly on spirits, to which he now looks for $25,000,000. Not a voice is raised in its behalf; apparently, each member of a beer-drinking nation sees in the plan an attempt to infringe upon his natural and inalienable right to get his beer where he chooses and at the lowest possible price.

How is Herr Sydow to recover this lost ground? He obstinately persists in his refusal to draft any scheme of direct Imperial taxation, on the ground that this would be poaching on preserves especially reserved for the tax-gatherers of the individual States. This is the answer of his spokesmen every time an Imperial income or capital-tax is suggested. Hence there is in sight no direct and elastic tax which, like the English income tax, may be readily raised or lowered as circumstances require. In brief, the Sydow scheme nowhere places the new burdens upon those best fitted to bear them.

How Herr Sydow is to fare from now on depends, of course, on the stability of Von Bülow's "bloc," composed of Liberals, Radicals, and Conservatives. If the Liberals should coalesce with the still sulky Centre and the Social Democrats, they would control the Reichstag and be in a position to dictate to Von Bülow. Politics have made stranger bedfellows; and in this case the shocking condition of the Treasury affords sufficient excuse for the coalition. Then too, the Prussian treasury is in straits. Herr von Rheinbaben, the Minister of Finance, reported to the Prussian Diet last week that the deficit of $17,750,000 in 1907, had leaped to $41,250,000 in 1908, and would go to $44,000,000 in 1909. Unless there is a radical financial reform of the whole business of the Empire, the condition of the separate States will soon, said Herr von Rheinbaben, become absolutely intolerable. Meanwhile, the nation is throwing away money on army and navy with greater prodigality than ever, and the financial genius so sorely needed is nowhere in sight.

## *THE POPULARITY OF POE.*

If a magazine editor were to find on his desk to-day two short stories by unknown writers, one signed Nathaniel Hawthorne and one Edgar Allan Poe, it is easy to guess which would be returned with thanks, and which would be snapped up on the spot. And the editor's choice would be dictated not solely by the fact that his myriad subscribers would prefer a tale of breathless horror or fascinating mystery to a simple study in conduct or conscience, but by the further fact that the successful story had the essential quality of "go" in which this young man Hawthorne seems rather deficient. It is true that Hawthorne's failure to impress a magazine editor might be cited as proof that he wrote real literature, but the question here is not of genuine merit, only of popularity. For a writer who was born one hundred years ago and died sixty years ago, Poe has, to a remarkable degree, the swiftness, the spare vigor of style which is the great requirement to-day. He is as careful to create interest in his first paragraph as any modern writer who has learned the secret of hitting the reader squarely between the eyes. He is eager to make his point. His language is less archaic than that of many men who have written since. By these qualities of technique preëminently, he stands nearer to us of the year 1909 than any of his contemporaries. Again the question is not whether his technique is of the highest kind, and whether it is expended on the best material, but whether he has power to attract readers.

Yet to make Poe merely a popular writer would be unfair, and would contradict too sharply the established belief that he is much more than that. The point is that there is popularity and popularity. Hall Caine is popular, Conan Doyle is popular, and Dumas the elder is popular. The popularity of the crowd and the day supplies, of course, no standard of merit. But when popularity meets the test of widely separated times and places, and of taste other than that of the crowd, it becomes in itself an important factor in the determination of literary values. In the able and extremely severe appraisal of Poe which he has written for *Scribner's Magazine*, W. C. Brownell denies Poe a place in literature, because his work lacks substance and sincerity; because he is quite indifferent to truth, reality, life; because he was only an artist, and "literature is more than an art." Poe was intent merely on producing his desired effects—to rasp our nerves, chill our marrow, and mystify our understanding. To do this he set himself deliberately to dress the false with the semblance of truth, and to make the truth incredible. He succeeded in getting his effect, but not in producing literature. So runs the judgment. But, after all, of the making of definitions of literature there is no end, and more than one great literary name, as the world sees it, is based on no more philosophical definition than that literature is managing words with notable or supreme dexterity. For words often seem able to transmute rather cheap material into a fuel for strong and universal emotion. The story of easy gallantry and sword-play becomes with Dumas "The Three Musketeers." The ordinary fairy-tale takes on, with Hans Christian Andersen, wisdom, tragedy, pathos, humor. So the grotesque, the horrible, and the outlawed, while

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

ethically inferior to the elements that form the current of healthy, sane, normal life, may nevertheless be uplifted by sheer artistry to the level of literature.

Fear of the dark, the hidden, the unknown is still a part of our nature. The curiosity of primitive man is still strong within us. The question becomes, then, whether Poe's tales of horror or mystery depend for their effect altogether on surprise, on the first shock, or suddenly awakened sensations of disgust, or whether their effect can be reproduced on a second and third reading. In other words, is their appeal temporary and meretricious, or is it based more permanently on those surviving fears, uncertainties, and cravings after light which we share with our cave ancestors? Do Poe's stories evaporate? To mark his superiority, we need only compare his tales of ratiocination and mystery with those of his successors in a genre that he is said to have founded. No one would care to read a story of Gaboriau's twice. The historian of Sherlock Holmes gets his effects partly from his literary manner, yet we doubt whether even Sherlock Holmes will bear rereading. But one can turn again and again to "The Gold Bug" and "The Murders in the Rue Morgue." The horror of "The Fall of the House of Usher" is not exhausted at one reading. Compact as it is, "The Cask of Amontillado" contains refreshment for many hours. Poe's technique, then, produces permanency, as well as strength of appeal; and fiction that is strong, permanent, and general in interest can hardly be put low in the literary scale.

Somewhat the same reasons that have made Poe popular with a generation more high-strung, more restless, less philosophic than his own, will account in large measure for his popularity in Europe, and especially in France. Mr. Brownell puts it the other way. The high esteem in which Poe is held abroad has reacted upon as, though it ought not to do so:

> To put the matter crudely, the appreciative foreigner has admirable writers of his own; what he most appreciates in our literature is the queer, the odd, the qualities from whose associated defects he feels an entire detachment.

But that is not quite the whole truth. If Europe looks to us for the odd and the queer, it is because she thinks it natural that youth should indulge in freakishness and excess. And the idea of youth is what Europe always associates with America, to her own disappointment. It is so with our politics as well as our literature. You are a new world and a new race, Europe argues. You are free from the ancient traditions that bind us of the Old World. You should be ardent innovators, pioneers of progress, radicals by nature, by definition almost. And when Europe finds us conservative instead of radical, inimical to what is revolutionary in politics, manners, morals, literature, she is puzzled. Sometimes, she calls it Puritanism, sometimes commercialism, sometimes hypocrisy. Europe, unable to understand why our literature should be dominated by New England moralizing, is, therefore, not insincere when she believes that in the wild note of a Poe or a Whitman, she has caught the true voice of the young world beyond the seas.

## *HEALTH IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.*

Opponents of "fad and fancy" in modern education are prone to lump the new hygiene with scroll-work, plain sewing, and other objects of their dislike. Old-fashioned people who believe that the teacher should confine himself to reading, spelling, and arithmetic, are also inclined to hold that the child's mother is the only proper person to call the doctor in. Medical inspection which has for its object the discovery and extirpation of contagious disease, the fogy can, of course, understand; but he shakes his head when school physicians begin to test eyesight and hearing with a view to improved scholarship, and his doubts strengthen when such mysterious matters as hypertrophied tonsils, adenoids, and defective dentition are brought within the scope of the same inquiry. The fogy, of course, will always assume just this attitude towards any form of progress. But there are people, not precisely doddering reactionaries, who nevertheless entertain suspicions regarding what we have called the new hygiene. And that is because the science, like most ambitious young sciences, sometimes tries to prove too much. If medical inspection were to show that 10 per cent. of all school children are physically defective, the figures would be credible; but when it is maintained that in certain districts of Cleveland nearly 75 per cent. of the children are physically abnormal, the plain man is staggered.

For this reason, we welcome a volume entitled "Medical Inspection of Schools," by Dr. Luther H. Gulick and Leonard P. Ayres, recently issued under the auspices of the Russell Sage Foundation. The value of the book lies in its sanity of tone as much as in the positive contributions it makes to an interesting subject. The authors do not ride their specialty hard. The common impression has gone forth that the connection between physical health and progress in scholarship has been absolutely established. According to the enthusiast, the surgeon's knife is the longed-for royal road to learning. Cut out a child's tonsils, clear him of adenoids, fit him with a pair of eyeglasses, and the school term will be cut in half, and the city will save millions of dollars. But our authors warn us to go slow. The case is by no means so clear as all that. The value of medical inspection they firmly believe in, without attempting to exaggerate that value.

First, then, it is reassuring to discover that the ordinary figures for disease among school children must be received with caution. In so relatively definite a test as that for sight or hearing, we find that the ratio of abnormality ranges from 7.7 per cent. for Bayonne, N. J., to 71.7 per cent. in the slums of Cleveland. Where the correct mean for large cities lies may be indicated by the fact that New York and Boston show a ratio of about 31 per cent. Hence, our authors declare:

> Such variations as this at once suggest, what is undoubtedly the case, that the results are largely influenced by the methods employed by the examiners, and variations from this cause are apt to be even more important than those caused by the actual differences in existing conditions.

Again, a detailed comparison between New York and Minneapolis gives, under "Bad Nutrition," a percentage of 6.3 and 23.3 for the respective cities; under "Pulmonary Disease," .9 and 4.2 per cent.; under "Defective Hearing," 1.1 and 7.7 per cent. So here, too, we find "a different standard, rather than any great difference in conditions." But the question which standard is nearer to the truth is a vital one. Against such alarmist reports as 80 per cent. defective for the school children of Sioux

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

City, we are warned that, after all, the perfect human animal is rare. In Chicopee, Mass., out of 500 pupils examined, only one was reported as having perfect teeth, and he had spinal trouble. Our schools, then, are not "filled with physical wrecks." The facts are indubitably important; but there must be "moderation of statement in making public the results."

The most interesting point made by Dr. Gulick and his collaborator has to do with the connection between physical defects and retardation, or poor scholarship. When a child falls behind in his work, when he is, in a grade for which he may be a year or more too old, the presumption is that here, if anywhere, the element of physical disability comes in. Not necessarily, say our authors. Over 7,000 New York school children were examined, and among the children of normal age the percentage of defectiveness is actually higher than among the children of abnormal age. In other words, the dunce of the class is likely to be in sounder health than the boy at the head of his class. In the very preface, we are impressed with this powerful fact: that prevailing opinion, general and professional, is wrong when it holds "that children behind their grades were so because of the handicap imposed on them by physical defects." No, there are other and more old-fashioned reasons for poor scholarship that still hold; and, in the order of their importance, they are: (1) age upon starting to school; (2) absence; (3) slowness; (4) dulness; (5) health; (6) physical defects other than sight and hearing; (7) mental weakness. In other words, the good old virtues of industry and punctuality are still more effective at school than an operation for adenoids.

## THE NEW PRESIDENT OF HARVARD.

BOSTON, January 16.

On January 13 the Harvard Corporation elected Prof. Abbott Lawrence Lowell president, and sent his name to the Board of Overseers. Under the rules, it must be held for at least a week before confirmation. Professor Lowell's election comes after ten weeks of scrutiny and sifting, since the resignation of President Eliot was announced on November 5. The choosing of a Harvard president has always been a responsible business, and this time the fact that the man was to succeed Mr. Eliot, the greatest personal force that has ever been active in American education, and the leader of Harvard for two-score years—made the task tenfold harder.

The Corporation, be it said at once, listened eagerly to suggestions, examined all claims, weighed every interest, and looked with an open mind at the qualifications of each candidate. In selecting Mr. Lowell they have laid the fallacy that the "young man" must necessarily be the best man, and they have dispelled the geographical fallacy. The latter is the more insidious. It rests on the assumption that, since Harvard is now a national university, with graduates dwelling in all parts of the world, she ought to take a president bred in the great, growing Centre or West, one who has been stimulated by the hustle of new conditions, and has not breathed too long the effete atmosphere of the Atlantic, especially of the New England, seaboard. Harvard College, it has been sometimes hinted, has been too much in the hands of "the Boston clique"; it is the turn for the graduates who are captains of industry and finance in New York or in Chicago to have a president who represents them. The application of the geographical limit in the choice of Congressmen, of candidates for the Presidency of the United States, and of Cabinet officers has been so obviously a mistake, that one would regret to see this notion prevail in the selection of the head of a university. Fortunately, the Harvard Corporation dared to run counter to this delusion. In Mr. Lowell they chose a genuine New Englander, a Bostonian through and through—simply because he was the best man; and when it is remembered that the principles which came out of Boston were built into the fabric of the nation; that the New England spirit has been carried in successive waves of migration to western New York, to Ohio, and so on across the prairies; that more recently Massachusetts enterprise and capital and Massachusetts brains have helped to develop the resources of the Centre and West—it need not be feared that the candidate who to-day best combines the ideals, culture, and enterprise of New England will be provincial or local in his attitude towards education. It is not where a man lives, but his state of mind, that gives him a national outlook.

We talk of all-round men, and they are rare; still rarer are all-round families. The Lowells are probably the best specimens of this rare product that we have in America. Their original immigrant, Percival Lowell (or Lowle) came in 1639 from Bristol, England, to Newbury, where he and his descendants lived the stern life of the seventeenth century. Early in the eighteenth century the first Lowell was graduated at Harvard. He was, I believe, the first minister of Newburyport. His son, John Lowell, who was graduated at Harvard in 1760, became a lawyer, stood high at the bar, was a member of the Massachusetts Constitutional Convention and of the Continental Congress, and was appointed by President Washington a United States judge. He it was who not only introduced into the Massachusetts Constitution the declaration that all men are created free and equal, but also advertised in the newspapers that he would defend any person held as a slave who desired to establish a right to freedom under that clause. His action abolished slavery in the Commonwealth. His son, Francis Cabot Lowell, introduced cotton manufacture into the United States, setting up mills in 1816 on the Merrimack at the spot which was named Lowell in his honor. From that day to this the family has been represented in every generation by judges, by men of great business enterprise and success, by soldiers, or by scholars. In the last generation James Russell Lowell, poet, patriot, professor, man of letters, and diplomat—made the name familiar on both sides of the Atlantic. Thus as a family the Lowells have been developed in many directions. They have set an example most important to our American society of men of wealth and position who would neither be idle, nor would regard their wealth as merely a means to selfish gratification. They have given themselves in service of all kinds. In 1864 one Lowell died leading a cavalry charge at Cedar Creek; in 1865 another Lowell poured forth the "Harvard Commemoration Ode." Viewed properly, it is such a collective experience as this—an experience which embraces all the larger concerns of life—that should breed the national spirit. Mere residence in New York or Chicago or Denver cannot give it.

One other point in regard to Mr. Lowell's background should not be overlooked: since 1720 Lowells in every generation have been educated at Harvard, and since 1784 members of the family have served, collectively, eighty-five years on the Harvard Corporation. Mr. Lowell's grandfather, John Amory Lowell, was a Fellow for forty years. This Harvard inheritance is indispensable in a Harvard president. Older graduates were astonished at the suggestion that a non-Harvard man should be even thought of as a candidate. As if the president of Harvard were in the same category as a railroad or Trust president, or as a star baseball player, to be engaged anywhere, if you can pay him his price! As if college loyalty, college associations, the subtle working of college ideals, could be bought and sold, or the allegiance transferred from institution to institution, as a lawyer transfers his allegiance from client to client! The election of Mr. Lowell doubt-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

less disposes of this fallacy for a long time to come.

Mr. Lowell was born in Boston, December 13, 1856, his father being Augustus, and his mother Katherine Bigelow Lawrence Lowell. His maternal grandfather, Abbott Lawrence, was one of the founders of the manufacturing city of Lawrence and United States Minister to England. As a child, Lawrence Lowell spent some time in France; then he was fitted for college at schools in Boston; entered Harvard in 1873, and was graduated in 1877, with Phi Beta Kappa rank, having taken highest honors in mathematics. He received his degree at the Harvard Law School in 1880, was admitted to the bar, and from that year until 1897 he practised law in Boston, in partnership with his cousin, Francis C. Lowell, now United States District judge; and later, Frederic J. Stimson joined the firm. In conjunction with his cousin, he published in 1884, a work on "Transfer of Stock in Corporations," but his attention was more and more turned to the science of government, and, in 1889, he collected a volume of "Essays on Government." In 1896, he printed "Governments and Parties in Continental Europe," a work in two volumes, which brought to American readers a mass of information not before accessible in English. The following year he gave up the practice of law to become lecturer on government at Harvard; in 1900, his position was made permanent by his promotion to be professor of the science of government. In 1908, he published "The Government of England," a treatise in which he attempts as an American to do for England what Mr. Bryce has done for the United States; and the general verdict, both here and in Britain, is that he has succeeded. A little book on "Colonial Civil Service," of which Prof. H. Morse Stephens was joint-author, and a discussion of "The Influence of Party upon Legislation in England and America," complete the list of his publications. Since the death of his father in 1900, Mr. Lowell has been trustee of the Lowell Institute; he has been a guiding member of the executive committee of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and for several years he worked energetically on the Boston school committee. He has thus enjoyed a very varied experience. As educator, he has seen from the inside the working of the public school system, of a great technical institution, and of Harvard University. As lawyer, he was brought into relation with the so-called practical world, while his studies led him to examine into the principles on which legislation is based. As trustee, he showed the remarkable foresight and prudence which have characterized so many of his family. As head of the Lowell Institute, he has not only sought out the intellectual leaders of Europe and America, but he has extended the work of the institute, by establishing regular courses, which large numbers of persons unable to go to college have availed themselves of. In social contacts, which play so large a part in determining the success or failure of the president of a great institution, he has had few equals in Boston.

Quickness, alertness, agility, are the intellectual qualities which first strike one in Mr. Lowell. He is the wittiest of talkers, with an apparently insatiate interest in all sorts of subjects. In his books he is solid, judicial, patient—the work on England represents the labor of many years—indulging rarely in generalization, leaving on the reader the final impression of a complete exposition of his subject. But if you watch him as he lectures, pacing nervously up and down the platform of the New Lecture Hall (his own gift to the university), stating his case with absolute clearness, stopping from time to time to emphasize an important point by a gesture, illustrating his argument by the most direct, concrete example or by flashes of wit, quick to reprove inattention, and able at every moment to carry the allegiance of his four or five hundred undergraduate hearers along with him—in all this you get the best indication of his various talents in action. Of medium height, he is lithe and wiry in body, as in mind, and apparently indefatigable in both. At a time when the dream of a large part of his countrymen is either to do as little work as possible, or to get rich and do no work at all, it is refreshing to know that the next president of Harvard, though what is considered a rich man, has from choice worked twelve or fifteen hours a day ever since he grew up. He takes a system of government apart, as a mechanician takes a machine, and shows how every piece is made, how it functions, and how far the system accomplishes what it is intended for. If not a pioneer in America in this important study, Professor Lowell has been the most successful and the ablest master of it: and his course at Harvard, which already three or four thousand students have chosen, has been the most popular in the last decade. He knows, therefore, from actual achievement how to stimulate students in their classroom work. He believes also that they can and should work more than they do at Harvard or at any other of our universities to-day. He has been the most efficient member of a committee which has considered the best way to improve the average scholarship of the undergraduates; and he urged the recent plans to establish the degree with distinction and to have the leading scholars more generally recognized by the students themselves.

What special theories Professor Lowell may intend to bring forward he has not stated, but, if his past record can be relied upon to foreshadow his future, we may expect that he will pay particular attention to the social life of the undergraduates. He understands the value of mixing with one's fellows in college. He realizes that, through the extension of the elective system on one hand and the great increase of members on the other, it has become proportionally harder for many undergraduates to develop on their social side. He has even been heard to favor setting apart one hall as the special habitation of freshmen. He is supposed to wish to foster athletics to a reasonable extent—but "reasonable" is a term which varies according to each person's standard. We may be sure, however, that Professor Lowell will not be an extremist. In college, he won the intercollegiate championship for the mile and two-mile runs, and he has ever since been an exerciser, which is very different from being an athletic specialist. Whatever course he may adopt, he has thus far shown himself so fully in sympathy with the undergraduates that they have regarded him as solicitous for their best interests. This harmony, if maintained, will be of immense help to him in carrying through any measures he may propose.

So far as I am aware, Professor Lowell has never declared himself against the elective system. All his efforts during the past ten years have been in the direction of improving and not of abolishing or greatly curtailing the system. Just what the final remedy may be, nobody can predict. But it is evident that Mr. Lowell's chief task must lie in the reorganization of Harvard College. President Eliot's magnificent achievement has been to create the American university. Until this was done, it was impossible to remodel the American college so that it should be in healthy relation with the preparatory schools below and the university above it. In other words, the standard must be fixed at the top, and not in the middle or at the bottom. During the process of creating the university, the college (not only at Harvard, but at every other institution sufficiently developed) has fallen out of adjustment. So serious was this dislocation that only a few years ago President Butler of Columbia advocated the squeezing of the college course into two years, while other educators asserted that it must be thrown over altogether. It was to save the college that President Eliot reluctantly consented to the three-years' course for students properly qualified.

Mr. Eliot himself has been accused of sacrificing Harvard College for the sake of the graduate schools. As we get far enough away from him, we shall perceive that by raising the schools to the

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

highest grade, he was securing a field to which first-rate teachers—on whom the fame and usefulness of a university finally depend—would be attracted. Having secured them, the standard of teaching in the lower departments is practically guaranteed. Experience has taught that the college, too, whose existence seemed lately uncertain, is indispensable: first, in order to give to a large number of prospective American citizens the rudiments, at least, of culture; and, next, in order to prepare the smaller number of youths who desire to go into the professional schools. This new college will not be like the old; it will be neither English nor German, but thoroughly American, an outcome, just as the old was, of American needs and ideals. That it will be possible to create this institution without retaining the largest amount of liberty compatible with efficiency, is not believed by any one familiar with the American and the Harvard spirit. *Hoc opus, hic labor;* and, we may add, *facilis descensus Averno.*

If President Lowell shall succeed in this, he will confer an immense benefit on American intellectual life, for it is not by a few preëminent scholars, but by the high cultivation of a large section of the people that a nation's capacity is judged. Thanks to President Eliot, he will inherit the tradition of publicity, of truth-speaking, of freedom in teaching, not less than the prestige of primacy which have distinguished Harvard since 1869. He finds Harvard international in the provenance of her students and teachers, national in her ideals. He himself has vital contacts with the dominant ideas of to-day and foresight of the principles which shall rule to-morrow. None of his predecessors entered upon the presidency of Harvard with brighter hopes, or with a more general approval.

## SOME FRENCH BOOKS OF VERSE.

PARIS, January 1.

"France, where poet never grew," was Emerson's summary dismissal of French verse. Taine, after laboring through English literature, avowed: "To Alfred Tennyson I prefer Alfred de Musset." The numerous verse-books which crowd each year from the Paris press will never settle for English readers this difference in national emotions and emotional rhythms. But those who can read French aloud well enough to get the swing and cadence of it, and who understand when perhaps elementary thoughts are put in fresh, colored, vivid words, will find a good deal of poetic enjoyment among the fifty-three recent poets, from whom extracts are given with biographical and bibliographical notices in the two volumes of the new revision of "Poètes d'aujourd'hui" by Ad. van Bever and Paul Léautaud (Mercure de France). One word of caution is needed—the reader should strip his mind of all the technical slang about poetic schools, Symbolists, Decadents, and the rest, although Catulle Mendès, who named more than forty years ago the oldest of all, Parnassians, is still vigorous. Somehow these lyric coteries have evanished amid the storm of present strenuous strife. They were never much more than decorative introductions for young men making a noise to apologize for their poetic existence.

It was last century in more than the mathematical sense when Jean Moréas, the Greek who wrote French verses in a fascinatingly curious language which demanded a dictionary of the Pléiades for its interpretation, strode with his band of neophytes into a café, and halted before his reflection in the glass to proclaim his self-enthusiasm: "Je suis beau!" The play of youthful spirits gave way in Moréas to work for which his native language prepared him—"Iphigénie" and living reanimations of great Greek tragics. His new volume, "Esquisses et souvenirs" (Mercure de France), cannot but be interesting, though he is past fifty and his youthful following has disappeared—automobiling or playing at politics to-day in all likelihood. Many of those who gave promise have dropped out as poets. Henri de Regnier had for a time a new and noble march to his verse and thought. Henry Bataille had lines touching deep as Cowper to his Mother's Picture; but his ability has gone into unpleasant plays. In these versified plays, with Rostand and André Rivoire and others, most of the effective recent French poetry has to be sought. And yet there are solitary voices like Francis Jammes, piping woodnotes wild or lays of peaceful hamlets where church-bells are still ringing, which should please our English religiosity of higher emotion.

Another volume with edited texts and bio-bibliographical notices by Ad. van Bever, is "Les Poètes du terroir" (Delagrave)—French patois and province poets from the fifteenth century to our own day. It takes in order the old division of regions, which was founded in the common character of the inhabitants—Alsace, Anjou, Auvergne, Béarn, Berry, Bournonnais, Bourgogne, Bretagne, and so on—giving not only formal poetry, but also the often far more valuable popular songs. With the patois the French text is given a new utility for philologers, as well as for common readers.

"Nos Femmes de lettres" (Perrin), by Paul Flat, editor of the *Revue Bleue*, has three who are poetesses out of five—Comtesse de Noailles, who was born a Rumanian princess, but whose books of French verse have had perhaps more vogue than any other poetry books of late years; Lucie Delarue-Mardrus, wife of the Egyptian doctor who has published the immense and astonishingly literal translation of the Cairo Arabian Nights; and Renée Vivien, a name which, I believe, conceals an *américaine* of Paris. Another, Madame Henri de Regnier, is a daughter of Heredia. She is perhaps best known for her prose novels, though her occasional verse is worth collecting. In general, these women poets have not yet, like the latest generation of men, enlarged their muse's outlook beyond Love-Love-Love. A book of woman's poetic invention of other days, though not in verse, should be noted here. "Bonnes Fées d'antan" (Calmann-Lévy), by Edmond Pilon, is a choice of the fairy tales of Mesdames d'Aulnoy, de Murat, de La Force, de Beaumont, L'Héritier, and others who wrote for hearts not born cynical—of which there must still be many.

S. D.

# Correspondence.

## THE REPEAL OF THE DUTY ON BOOKS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: At the meetings of a number of the societies of scholars held during the Christmas vacation resolutions were adopted favoring the repeal of the duty on books printed in English. In some cases, I fear, the matter ended there; secretaries have thought that a strong expression of opinion on a question on which all scholars agree was quite enough. I venture to suggest, however, that all such resolutions should be sent to the House Committee on Ways and Means at Washington, addressed to the chairman, the Hon. Sereno E. Payne. The Archæological Institute of America requested the secretaries of the local societies in all parts of the country to present the matter to their own Congressmen and Senators. It would be well if all interested in the subject should write to those having a hand in shaping the new tariff. Strong proposals have already been made to increase and widen the scope of the present illiberal duty.

By the copyright law both printers and publishers in this country are well protected; no book may be copyrighted here which has not been manufactured in the United States. Any English publisher of a book likely to have a large sale in this country has it reproduced here in order to secure copyright and generally sells it at the price charged in England. If a book is not likely to secure large enough sale in this country to justify getting out an American edition, it is imported; such imported copies may not be copyrighted, and pay 25 per cent. duty. Unfortunately, it is this class of books which the scholar needs, not the reprints of popular stories and the like. The income to the government from the duty is small, but the burden to the individual scholar is a great one if he has occasion to use many books printed in England.

W. F. HARRIS.

Cambridge, Mass., January 12.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

## JUSTICE FOR THE EARTHQUAKE SUFFERERS.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Messina and Reggio, centres of a large district whose chief products are oranges and lemons, found their best markets in our Eastern cities until the tariff of 1897 added to a duty of one cent per pound on oranges, lemons, and similar fruit the following provision:

> Boxes, barrels, or other articles containing oranges, lemons, limes, grapefruit, shaddocks, or pomelos, 30 per centum ad valorem: *Provided*, that the thin wood, so-called, comprising the sides, tops, and bottoms of orange and lemon boxes of the growth and manufacture of the United States, exported as orange and lemon box shooks, may be reimported in completed form, filled with oranges and lemons by the payment of a duty at one-half the rate imposed on similar boxes of entirely foreign growth and manufacture.

This paragraph in the tariff proved prohibitive. It fell disastrously upon the Sicilian and Calabrian peasants, and deprived the consumers of a good quality of fruit, differing in flavor from that raised in Florida and California.

It would be an act of social justice for our tariff reformers to remove this provision whose benefit to Americans is doubtful or insignificant, and it would encourage an afflicted people now forced to accept our alms. It would also tend to decrease the number of Sicilian and Calabrian peasants forced to emigrate.

A. Hayes.

Rome, Italy, December 31.

## POE ECLIPSED.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: The enclosed item from a Cleveland paper you have perhaps already seen. It is hard to tell whether it is humorous or pathetic. The University of Virginia, which seems to depend upon a sprinter for its reputation, is entitled to sympathy.

Edward Dickinson.

Oberlin, O., January 11.

Charlottesville, Va., January 8.—Although President Roosevelt has written a personal letter to "Jim" Rector, urging him to another race with Walker, the man from South Africa, Rector cannot take part in such a contest without endangering his life. Rector, who is taking law here, and has done more to bring the University of Virginia into popular notice than any man since the days of Thomas Jefferson, founder of the college, has been warned that he cannot live two years if he continues in training.

## THE HETCH HETCHY VALLEY.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Your issue of January 7, 1909, has an appeal from George Edwards to the *Nation* and its readers to assist in blocking the city of San Francisco and the other cities about San Francisco Bay in their efforts to obtain the use of Hetch Hetchy Valley as a great reservoir for water to supply those cities. We are familiar here with the arguments with which Mr. Edwards supports his appeal. They have been urged by John Muir and some others who are genuine lovers of nature and undoubtedly believe the scenic beauty of Hetch Hetchy Valley will be diminished by turning it into a mountain lake. But the fight against San Francisco and the other bay cities is made principally by the Spring Valley Water Works, a private corporation that has heretofore had a monopoly of the water supply for the city of San Francisco. Some of us who are sincere lovers of the mountains and of mountain scenery, and have given much time and labor to securing forest reservations in the Sierras, have been amazed at the arguments of persons who apparently have no connection with the Spring Valley Water Works. A fair sample of those arguments appears in Mr. Edwards's letter.

San Francisco now has a population well on towards 500,000, and other cities about the Bay of San Francisco aggregate nearly as much more. The sources of supply of water in the neighborhood are not sufficient for a great population, and those sources of supply are held in private ownership. These facts are sufficient to show any reasonable person how serious the situation is for our people. The Spring Valley Water Works owns the principal local sources of supply. There is only one other corporation now engaged in the water supply business, viz., the company that furnishes water to the cities of Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda, etc. We are willing to pay a fair value for the plants of these companies. Recently I served a term as Mayor of the city of Oakland, and my experience has convinced me that the water companies furnishing water to the cities around the bay have been heretofore (not now, however) the most baneful sources of municipal corruption with which we have had to contend. Lovers of civic righteousness should give us their sympathy and assistance to free ourselves from this burden that may at any time under different corporate management be imposed upon us.

Mr. Edwards probably refers, when he mentions other sources of supply, to other streams than the Tuolumne flowing from the Sierras into the great San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys, but unfortunately for his argument the waters from all those streams have been appropriated by different corporations for power, mining, and irrigation purposes, and any man versed in practical affairs knows that it will be impossible to utilize the waters of any of these other streams without condemnation and paying immense sums of money. But as to the Tuolumne River, while it is the largest one of all that can be utilized for our purposes, there are probably no valid claimants to the use of its waters, except two irrigation districts in the San Joaquin Valley. These districts are provided for to their satisfaction in the agreement exacted by the Secretary of the Interior when he granted the privilege to the city of San Francisco to impound waters in the Hetch Hetchy Valley.

The Tuolumne furnishes, and is the only stream that does furnish, a sufficient supply of water to meet the needs of the cities around the Bay of San Francisco for all time to come, and also meet the needs of farmers whose lands can be irrigated therefrom. I believe all disinterested engineers agree in the proposition that the waters of the Tuolumne River are the most available source of supply for the bay cities. One reason they are the most available is because none of them has a natural site for reservoir purposes equalling the Hetch Hetchy in excellence. These mountain streams run down deep cañons, with now and then a little valley of a high gradient, and not one of them, I believe, and my knowledge is reasonably full, has a really good reservoir site large enough to meet the requirements of the situation, excepting only the Tuolumne River. This river, heading on Mts. Lyall, Dana, etc., flows through extensive tracts of comparatively level land, known as the Tuolumne Meadows, at an elevation of about nine thousand feet, and then pitches into a gorge which is about twenty miles long. At the lower end of this gorge the walls of the cañon expand and include Hetch Hetchy Valley, with a floor almost level. At the lower end of the valley these walls come together again, and you can easily pitch a stone across the stream where the dam will be located, with perpendicular granite walls rising on each side. A high dam can therefore be made at comparatively small expense; and, as the floor of the valley is level, the amount of water that a dam 250 feet high will retain is enormous. I venture to say there is not on this earth so fine a site for a reservoir. The conditions are ideal, and nature was kind to the millions who will inhabit the cities around San Francisco Bay by providing such a place for them to get water from.

This brings us to the second ground of objection, viz.: that the valley is now a beautiful meadow, and to change it into a mountain lake will destroy its beauty. It will undoubtedly destroy the meadow, but the lake that will be created will be a much greater natural attraction than the valley is in its present condition. The lower end is wet, and the mosquitoes are a frightful pest. In ordinary seasons it is not until late in July that people can camp in the valley, with any degree of comfort. Very few people visit the valley. It can be reached only by a trail. I spent eight days in the valley last summer, after the mosquito season had passed, and I do not believe more than twenty-five persons visited the valley during the time I was there. If the recommendation of Mr. Pinchot, who has done so much for forest scenery and for preserving the forests, and the recommendation of Secretary Garfield and President Roosevelt are adopted, San Francisco will turn this beautiful but mosquito-breeding meadow into a beautiful mountain lake, whose attractions will be unique in character, and probably as great as that of any lake of its size in the mountains of any country. It will be necessary for San Francisco to build good roads to the lake, and this will enable lovers of natural scenery to get to it. The charms of Hetch Hetchy Valley have been known for more than forty years, but it is rare to find any person in California who has taken the trouble to ride over the mountain trails in order to see it. If good roads are built into the valley, this mountain lake will then become accessible, and will be visited by thousands who will never see it if left in its present condition.

The only other objection of Mr. Edwards and those who agree with him, worth considering, is that when the watershed above Hetch Hetchy is made accessible by good roads, then there will be such a crowd of people desiring to go there that the city of San Francisco will attempt to restrain them, on the ground that they are polluting the waters of the river. How can San Francisco keep people from going into the mountains above Hetch Hetchy? The head-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

waters of the Tuolumne cannot be reached by way of Hetch Hetchy. Another route must be taken. At present only the strongest and most enthusiastic mountain-lovers ever get to Hetch Hetchy or the watershed above. If a grant to the city is made of the valley it will necessitate good roads, and give better opportunities to the lovers of wild mountain scenery. Not enough people can go there to foul the waters of the river to the slightest degree. It is only in the late summer that the river above Hetch Hetchy is accessible at all. The watershed of the Tuolumne River includes hundreds of square miles of high mountains, with innumerable streams, all converging to the Meadows. After the most of them have reached the Tuolumne then that stream plunges into a twenty-mile cañyon before reaching Hetch Hetchy. It is absurd to say that the people who will visit these headwaters of the river, which are only accessible for three months in the year, and then only to people who are willing to camp out, will foul the river.

The readers of the *Nation* should not hesitate to decide in favor of the people living around San Francisco Bay in a matter so vital to them. If the grant is made to San Francisco, Oakland (where I live), and all the east shore cities will have a chance to unite with San Francisco in bringing the absolutely pure water from the Sierras to our doors. WARREN OLNEY.

San Francisco, January 13.

## SCOPE OF A PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: A reader of the *Nation* for many years, I wish to express a doubt as to the ultimate wisdom of confiding to the Public Service Commission authority to control the creation of indebtedness in business which you discuss in the Delaware and Hudson case (December 24, pp. 16 and 17). The company, it seems, made a purchase of coal lands to supply coal for its engines, or some other equally legitimate purpose, for the cost of which it issued short-time notes. Now that financial conditions have improved, it proposes to retire these notes (probably bearing a high interest rate) with other notes on longer time, secured by mortgage of the railroad. The commission refuses to approve the mortgage, and this decision you cordially endorse. No suggestion of fraud or bad faith or illegality is made; if the expenditure was for a lawful object, the right to include this debt in a general mortgage is clear. It is apparently a question of business policy or expediency only. Those responsible for the company's affairs find that they can secure better rates and terms by using bonds secured by mortgage on the railroad, but the commission holds that they can only mortgage the coal lands for this debt. It may be that the creditor will not accept a coal land mortgage; presumably this plan for securing the indebtedness is to the company's interest in the opinion of the parties interested.

It strikes me as doubtful policy to empower a commission or State bureau, whose members are politically appointed, and have no personal responsibility in the matter, with authority to arbitrarily annul business contracts and agreements of this character. You speak of the "helplessness of shareholders and creditors" in some other instances as ground for conceding this wide-reaching power to the commission, and I do not understand that you have creditors of railways only in mind. The creditors and stockholders of the United States Steel Corporation, for instance, are numerous and widely scattered and are "helpless" in the same sense and to a far greater degree than those of the Delaware and Hudson Company, which must make public detailed reports of all its receipts and expenditures. What good reason can be given for State interference to protect creditors of the Delaware and Hudson from the mistakes of its managers that will not apply to creditors of the United States Steel Corporation, and all other steel companies, and the creditors of all corporations and individuals likewise who conduct their business on borrowed capital?

You may be right that "supervision of this nature has come into our legislation to stay," but, if so, the State should certainly provide for adequate compensation to those who suffer from the mistakes of the commission, who are not infallible. This is a very different situation from that presented where parties in interest ask the intervention of a court to restrain illegal diversion of funds or other irregularities. The commission is not a court, and no party interested is complaining.

W. W. BALDWIN.

Burlington, Ia., January 6.

[The intervention of a Public Service Commission, in the cases referred to, was designed to prevent what is somewhat loosely called "overcapitalization," meaning particularly the unwarranted piling on the back of a corporation, of liabilities which may make trouble with its finances afterward. This practice has been the curse of American railway finance, and the fruitful source of railway insolvencies, from the very beginning of our railway history. All experience has taught that the small shareholder is practically helpless in the matter. Injunctions and lawsuits are always expensive and often doubtful, because of technicalities; the individual suitor has the immense resources, financial and legal, of his own corporation massed against him. The Public Service Corporations are a substitute, and a very desirable one, for hit-or-miss State legislation, which may be enacted either in the heat of passion or under the pressure of railway lobbyists. Our correspondent cites the shareholders of the United States Steel Corporation. The brief history of that company presents a very pointed argument in favor of the commission theory. The indefensible undertaking of 1902, proposed by the corporation's directors, to convert $200,000,000 preferred stock into bonds without acquiring a dollar of new property, would unquestionably have been found repugnant to any properly drawn law for Public Service Commission supervision. Yet the Steel management was able to override protests of shareholders at annual meetings and injunction suits brought by shareholders against the conversion plan, and the scheme was brought to a halt only when, in a Stock Exchange panic, financial interests as powerful as those already seated in control bought into the property and served notice that the creation of mortgages to buy nothing but the company's own shares must stop. We may add that public service corporations, by reason of their natural monopoly of traffic or commodity, have the public at their mercy; and in such cases it is therefore peculiarly desirable that the rights of the public in the management of the company shall be conserved either by strict legislation or some such device as a commission.—ED. NATION.]

## PURITY OF THE PRESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Having read your editorial paragraph of December 17 anent purity of the press, and having noted your allusion to a movement in New York city to secure omission of prurient details of evidence in criminal cases, I should like to call your attention to a movement started in this city in 1907, by the writer, with the same object in view. The circular letter sent out by the Philadelphia Section of the Council of Jewish Women received a large number of endorsements from societies and individuals. An appeal to editors was issued at the time of the second Thaw trial. Believing, also, as you do, that this work for reform in the press must be continuous, our National Council at its triennial convention in December last appointed a standing committee on purity of the press, with the object of forming a public opinion which shall demand elimination of objectionable matter from publication. Special request was made through the Associated Press for a conservative dealing with the present murder trials in order to safeguard our homes and our children from the demoralizing influence of prurient details of evidence.

I enclose a copy of the resolution adopted by our executive board, in November, 1907. CORNELIA KAHN, M.D.

Philadelphia, January 8.

Be it resolved, That we vigorously deprecate the publication of such details of trials as are a menace to public morals, and also that we ask all public-spirited persons to refuse support to those journals that in the daily publishing of this and other most objectionable and sensational material, do ignore their high privileges; and,

That we oppose this evil in practical ways, and especially in the line of developing public opinion to appreciate its danger. We earnestly appeal to editors to aid us in this effort

## THE SURVIVAL OF THE MORALLY FIT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: It seems to me that in the conclusion of your "Fifty Years of Darwinism" (January 7, p. 6), you have overlooked a more important factor determining human progress than the conscious use of the "power of environment" "in bettering the conditions of the poor, the defective, and the prone to crime."

There has been until lately a serious misinterpretation of the meaning of "the struggle for existence," and "the survival of the fittest," as applied to human society. This struggle has generally been regarded as a brutal contest for supremacy,

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

in which the fittest who survived were those who were the strongest physically and mentally, and who were either unmoral or immoral, at least so far as the combatants were concerned. Even so great an authority as Huxley lent the weight of his influence, in his Romanes Lecture, to the above interpretation. Two of the most important chapters in Darwin's "Descent of Man," the third and fifth, on the moral and intellectual development of man, seem to have been overlooked or forgotten. In these chapters, Mr. Darwin distinctly states that the social instincts, being the more enduring and persistent, conquer the less persistent, and that these social instincts depend for their growth upon the development of the moral sense; that this moral sense is itself the product of social contact, which is increased by the growth of society, and which must go on increasing as societies enlarge and pass from clans to tribes and finally into nations; and, furthermore, that this moral sense is preserved and increased by the action of natural selection:

> At all times throughout the world tribes have supplanted other tribes, and as morality is one element of their success, the standard of morality and the number of well-endowed men will thus everywhere tend to rise and increase (Chap. v, p. 160).

It may be further affirmed that with the growth of civilized society, morality becomes of more and more importance in determining the survival of the fittest, for by that term we mean the survival of the individual or race that is best adapted to the *essential* conditions of the environment. Human nature is what it is because of centuries of antagonism as well as of association. It is probable that in the earliest times when men were nomads, and society had not consolidated, the predatory instincts were the strongest and that conflict was predominant. While even then certain moral traits, such as courage and fidelity to leaders, were very useful, yet intellectual qualities were of more importance, and hence we should expect to find, what is generally admitted, that a high intelligence was developed earlier than a high morality. But as society was brought into closer and closer contact through inventions and discoveries which are the outcome of the scientific method until now the whole civilized world is in touch, by means of telegraphs, railroads, steamships, the post office, and the newspaper, the sense of solidarity has been so intensified that moral relations have become the most important, because on them will depend that "peace on earth and good will to men," towards which we all look, but which is yet so distant. We can comfort ourselves, however, with the thought that the processes of natural selection are yet going on, preserving and increasing the growth of those qualities in mankind which best fit him to live harmoniously with his fellows.

ROBERT MATHEWS.

Rochester, N. Y., January 12.

## THE HIGHER CRITICISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: If the gospel "according to Matthew Arnold" be taught by zealous disciples for the next eighteen centuries, may not much more that is desirable be accomplished, even for the "rank and file." After all, must not the educated "inward judge" be the practical court? Does not the "inward judge" lead to individual responsibility to a much greater degree than either fear on the one hand, or the supernatural upon the other? May not obedience to the "inward judge" rightly and naturally follow any doubts that may arise about the supernatural? Are not most of the deplorable conditions which confront us more the result of disregard of the "inward judge" than any lost faith in the doctrine according to Matthew? It seems to me that instruction in "the gospel according to Matthew Arnold" is demanded by present conditions.

EDWARD M. HYZER.

Milwaukee, Wis., January 8.

## INDIAN STATISTICS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: By way of comment on the letter "Indian Statistics," from your English correspondent, T. Morison, in your issue of January 7, it may be said that as to a useful comparison of such data Lord Curzon declared in his address to the Viceregal Council, March 29, 1901:

> I do not say that these data are incontrovertible. There is an element of conjecture in them [the estimates of 1898], but so was there in the figures of 1880. If one set of figures is to be used in argument, equally may the other.

Permit me further, without going into the causes of poverty and discontent in India, to express the firm conviction that no unprejudiced reader ever saw in the late William Digby's writings merely "the conjectures" or the work of "an industrious statistician poring over blue books." Further, that no one, worthy of his steel, ever couched a lance with Mr. Digby, and retired without a high sense of his courage, honor, and address; or ever, thereafter, spoke of him with condescension—and finally, that whoever was favored with knowledge of Mr. Digby's labors and character must have felt the inspiration that supported him in voluntary sacrifice of office, friendships, health, and means, and which won for him after death, a public and enduring monument to his devotion and his unrequited services.

CHAS. B. SOUTTER.

Aiken, S. C., January 11.

# Notes.

Houghton Mifflin Co. is bringing out a new edition of Woodberry's "Life of Poe" in connection with the celebration of the poet's centenary. The book has been largely rewritten since it first appeared more than twenty years ago, and much new matter is added. It now appears in two volumes, with many illustrations.

Houghton Mifflin Co. announces for publication this year "The German Element in the United States," in two volumes, by Prof. Albert Bernhardt Faust of Cornell University. The first draft of the manuscript won the prize of $3,000 offered by Conrad Seipp of Chicago for the best essay on the subject. The book will be lavishly illustrated and will probably appear in the early autumn.

In five volumes of the Cambridge English Classics (G. P. Putnam's Sons) we are to have a reprint of the King James Bible from a copy of the folio of 1611 in the possession of Aldis Wright.

G. P. Putnam's Sons announce that the fourth, and concluding, volume of Hanotaux's "History of Contemporary France," in the English version, is now in press.

Prof. W. D. Lyman of Whitman College, Walla Walla, Wash., is engaged in the preparation of a book on the Columbia River for a series published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, known as Historic Rivers of America. It is the intention of the author to give some special prominence to Nelson and the magnificent lake district by which it is surrounded.

A new book by the Rev. G. Campbell Morgan of London, "Mountains and Valleys in the Ministry of Jesus," will soon be published by the Fleming H. Revell Co.

A life of Abraham Lincoln, by Brand Whitlock, Mayor of Toledo and author of several novels dealing with sociological problems, is announced by Small, Maynard & Co., publishers of the Beacon Series of Biographies.

The proprietors of the *Morning Chronicle* of Halifax, N. S., of which paper Joseph Howe was for many years the editor, will soon issue a new and complete edition of the speeches and public letters of Mr. Howe. This edition will include the material contained in that published by the Hon. Mr. Annand in 1858, and also all the important speeches and letters delivered and written by Joseph Howe between 1858 and the time of his death in 1873. The editor of the new edition is Joseph A. Chisholm.

In honor of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of John Stuart Blackie, his nephew, Stodart Walker, is preparing a volume of correspondence, and requests that letters bearing on the subject be sent to him at No. 30 Walker Street, Edinburgh.

Another example of the curious and rather factitious revival of interest in the Stuart family is shown by the announcement of W. G. Blaikie Murdoch's new book, "The Royal Stuarts in Their Connection with Art and Letters," to be issued by J. & J. Gray & Co. of Edinburgh. Mr. Murdoch, who begins his record with James I of Scotland, is apparently a thoroughgoing partisan.

The third and fourth volumes of the Works of James Buchanan (J. B. Lippincott Co.) bring the series to the middle of 1841, and thus cover his career into the Administration of Harrison. The range of subjects on which he spoke was wide, and he does not appear to have left unexpressed his opinion upon any of the leading measures coming before Congress, whether of internal or foreign policy. Stiff and formal as are his speeches, they show the attitude of the Jackson party, and the way in which that attitude was adapted to the needs of Pennsylvania and to the political aims of Buchanan. For he represented his State rather than the nation, and resented whatever seemed to belittle him in the eyes of the Democratic voters of Pennsylvania. The continuance of the agitation of the bank question, of the disposition of public deposits and surplus national revenue, and

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

of specie payments were the leading measures on which his influence in State politics rested. It cannot be said that his treatment of them ever rises above the level of a good stump speech, addressed more to the feelings than to the intelligence of his audience. His speech at the Pennsylvania convention of 1840 marks his limitations as a politician as well as a statesman. It was competent, but that is all. He was not an admirer of Van Buren, of whose ability to succeed Jackson he had strong doubts. These doubts were deepened when, after offering Buchanan the place of attorney-general and receiving a declination, Van Buren formed a Cabinet in which Pennsylvania was not represented. The personal relations between the two men were altered, though Buchanan does not yet figure among the Presidential possibilities. When Van Buren was defeated in 1840, the chances of Buchanan brightened, and he became the candidate of his State. It is needless to say that in the matters of office-seeking and the partisan use of office Buchanan was not at all squeamish, demanding many appointments and openly avowing his want of sympathy in any restrictions on the activities of Federal officeholders in elections. To him the Senate was more of a political arena than a place for legislating, and his rambling speeches, crowded with personalities, were better fitted to catch the popular favor than to accomplish much in the making of laws. Since he was without a particle of humor, his efforts to lighten his address are heavy reading; and nowhere does he give the impression of superficiality more strongly than in dealing with a question where a high moral issue is involved, as in slavery in the District. There is much on the rising problems over Texas and the Northeastern boundaries, and he made two speeches on the McLeod case. On foreign questions he should have been an authority. The volumes are still sparing in his correspondence, the greater part of which was accidentally destroyed; but the few letters that are given do not alter the impression gained from the speeches. Buchanan was evidently writing with the possibility of publication before him. The editing of the volumes, by John Bassett Moore, leaves nothing to be desired.

The Bibliographical Society of America has sent to its members the second volume of its Proceedings and Papers, covering the two meetings in Asheville, N. C., in May, 1907, and in Chicago on January 1, 1908. The book contains A. G. Salley's paper, "The First Presses of South Carolina," accompanied by a detailed bibliographical description of 73 imprints between the years 1736 and 1771, and mention of a few more. G. S. Godard discusses the "History and Progress of Collecting Material for a Bibliography of Connecticut," a work carried on by the Connecticut Library Association. There are reports by the committees on Incunabula and on Colonial Laws. The fourth number of the Society's Bulletin continues the record of bibliographies issued and in course of preparation. Among the latter we find "a general evaluated bibliography of social science," edited by W. D. P. Bliss, and to be published by the Social Science Library Bureau of Bibliographical Information. Miss Ethel D. Roberts, a student in the New York State Library School, has prepared an American Dante Bibliography for 1896-1908, in continuation of that of T. W. Koch.

When a book is dedicated "To the Great American Voter . . . before whose dread opinion the mighty of the earth stand in awe," one is prepared for the worst. It is not the worst that follows, in the two volumes of "American Supremacy," by George W. Crichfield (Brentano's), but it is pretty bad. The author has accumulated a good deal of material about laws, customs, and concessions in certain South American states, but his tone is embittered and violent, his conclusions wild. His one thesis is that South Americans are a set of liars and cut-throats, and his sole inference is that "the United States should establish civilized governments in those countries, which would make pillage by revolutionary bands impossible." Such an extreme of passion and unreason defeats itself.

Arthur Preuss of the *Catholic Fortnightly Review* is the author of a severe polemic against Freemasonry, entitled "A Study in American Freemasonry" (St. Louis: B. Herder). Deriving his information concerning the order from the authoritative works of Mackey and Pike, he seeks to show that Freemasonry is by no means the harmless social and benevolent organization it appears to be, but rather an insidious and dangerous enemy of true faith and upright morals. Mr. Preuss takes his antagonist somewhat too seriously. There is unquestionably a large element of deistic philosophy in the teachings of the Masonic ritual, derived from the speculations current when it attained its most rapid development toward its present form, but, as the order now exists in America, it is a fraternal order, pure and simple, of more or less benevolence and influence, and to try to prove it something more is to stimulate the curiosity by which it flourishes.

"The Jungle Folk of Africa" (F. H. Revell Co.), by Robert H. Milligan, is a remarkable series of pictures, as it were, of the life, customs, folk-lore, and religion of the West Coast native, based on the incidents of a seven years' experience in the German Kamerun and French Congo as a missionary of our Presbyterian Church. It awakens, as no other book within our knowledge has done, an interest in and sympathy for the people of this region. There is no attempt at concealment of the dark side of their character, their immorality, their untrustworthiness, their murderous proclivities, illustrated by the fact that in a year in one town where he was stationed, he did "not remember that there was one natural death," though he "never ceased to hear their mourning for the dead." But there is a bright side, of which perhaps the best illustration is the statement that "his love for his mother . . . is the strongest sentiment and the deepest emotion in the mind and heart of the African." Especially interesting are the accounts of the witchcraft practised and the fetishes, the power of which is gradually diminishing as civilization increases. In a chapter entitled "White and Black" Mr. Milligan confirms with his testimony that of the other American missionaries as to the brutality with which the natives are treated by the Belgian and Portuguese officials, and to a certain extent, we regret to add, by the French. He has much entertaining matter about the amusements of the natives, especially their dancing and singing. Very little comparatively is told about his missionary work, only one chapter being wholly devoted to it; the aim of the book is simply to "exhibit the human nature of the African." There are seventeen illustrations, the most interesting of which are portraits of native friends. We regret the lack of an index, which would have added much to the value of the work.

"A rag-tag journal" is the apt description given by W. G. Burn Murdoch of his latest work "From Edinburgh to India and Burmah" (E. P. Dutton & Co.). It is, in fact, the daily record of impressions of scenery and native life during a journey in 1905-06, taken simply in the interest of his profession as artist, and it reads as if it were written for a circle of intimate friends, rather than for the general public. The closing sentences of a description of women at a tank will give an idea of the style and humor of the book:

> The color from the red soil reflects under their raised arms and under their cheeks, and into the classic folds of their draperies, strong blue, and deep red, in their shadows, and throws up rich reflections to the undersides of the wet earthenware bowls; the water laps over their brims, and the sky reflects like sapphire on their upper surfaces. Who will say that color is not the most beautiful thing in the world—the very flower of love and light and fire; the sign of preponderant katabolism or anabolism as the naturalist might possibly put it, to be perfectly explicit!

Still, if the reader can overcome the feeling of weariness at the constant repetition of color effects, he will find much entertainment, though not much useful information. There are, for instance, vividly picturesque accounts of the reception of the Prince and Princess of Wales at Bombay and Rangoon. Burmah impressed the author not only as a far more fascinating country than India from its beauty, but as in a far better condition as regards the state of its people. There is nothing in Burmah, for example, to compare with "the most nauseating place in the world," the Ghats at Benares. Commercial progress is indicated by the fact that the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company, which began business in 1863, with four steamers, has now a fleet of 360 vessels. Mr. Murdoch's account of his voyage up the river to Bhamo in one of these steamers, an excursion which he characterizes as many times more interesting than a trip up the Nile, should attract travellers to this region. It should be added that Mr. Murdoch's pastime was hunting, and occasionally he varies his narrative as artist in search of subjects for his canvas by accounts of hunting trips in the jungle. The book is attractively made, but its excellence is marred by numerous typographical errors. There are twenty-four full-page illustrations in color—one of a fakir at Benares is very striking—and numerous reproductions of sketches taken on the spot of interesting scenes and incidents.

The most recent issue in the South American Series, edited by Martin Hume, is "Peru," by C. Reginald Enock (imported by Charles Scribner's Sons). Written in a less vivacious style than the "Chile," in the same series, by G. F. Scott Elliot, it betrays a wider knowledge of present

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

conditions, and is especially full on Peruvian mineral resources and agricultural development. Both volumes deal with the early history in an uncritical manner, but serve the purpose of a handbook reasonably well. Both are freely illustrated.

In "The Other Americans," by Arthur Ruhl (Charles Scribner's Sons), we get as neat and favorable an application of journalistic methods to travel as one could wish. The writer always had a "story" in mind, and fell upon the picturesque and eccentric in Carácas, Bogotá, Lima, Santiago, Buenos Ayres, and Rio de Janeiro, with a sure and overmastering instinct. Rapid and superficial, he yet has a faculty for seizing characteristic traits; and the net result is a very readable book, though one that by no stretch could be called thoroughly informed.

Vols. XXI and XXII in the Publications of the Hakluyt Society, Series 2, are translations of Alonso de Espinosa's "Del Orígen y Milagros de la Santa Imágen de nuestra Señora de Candelaria que apareció en la Isla de Tenerife, con la Descripción de esta Isla," and the much more precious "History of the Incas," by Pedro Sarmiento de Gamboa, together with Ocampo's account of "The Execution of the Inca Tupac Amaru." The recent publication of the text of the Sarmiento manuscript, in the library of Göttingen, was the immediate occasion of this edition, to which Sir Clements Markham furnishes the introduction. He does not fail to point out the inevitable bias in a narrative designed to prove that the Incas were usurpers and tyrants, and thus justly robbed and put to death by the unselfish Spaniards. Still, Sarmiento remains the chief authority on the Inca civilization.

"The Nun Ensign" (London: T. Fisher Unwin) is James Fitzmaurice-Kelly's latest demonstration of his Spanish scholarship. It is a translation into English of "La Monja Alférez," with a learned introduction and copious notes. At the end is printed, in Spanish, the play by Juan Pérez de Montalbán, also entitled "La Monja Alférez." The editor makes it probable that one scene from this play turned up as a spurious chapter in the book. Mr. Fitzmaurice-Kelly's tracing of the actual history of the actual nun ensign, Catalina de Erauso, and of the origin and fate of the account which she was supposed to have written of her extraordinary adventures, disguised as a man, shows an exhaustive sifting of all the material. Incidentally, it convicts De Quincey, in his essay on this work, of either ignorance or imposition, or both. An attractive feature of this edition is the inclusion of twenty-seven illustrations by Vièrge. They are on glazed paper, pasted over blue-tinted pages, as a kind of framing. In his well-known style, they lose something here by their uniformly small scale.

The Comte de Rambuteau is not a hero of romance. To the Parisian of to-day he is remembered merely by a street that bears his name and by certain modest but useful improvements which he introduced in Paris during the fifteen years of his administration as Prefect of the Seine. He died in 1869. His Memoirs, written during his retirement, under the Second Empire, were released by his grandson in 1904 and edited by a professor of a French lycée. They are now translated into English (G. P. Putnam's Sons). The reader, who is looking for spicy anecdotes or malicious portraits need not open this volume, which contains only the recital of a busy life spent in the service of the state. This aristocrat was, in fact, a bourgeois with qualities more solid than brilliant. Instead of wasting his youth in sterile opposition to the new order of things, he entered the court of Napoleon as Chamberlain and afterwards served the Emperor as Prefect. Having retired to private life during the Restoration, he reappeared just in time to reap the benefit of the Revolution of 1830, which gave him the important function of Prefect of the Seine that he kept until 1848. His last years he spent on his family estate of Rambuteau, in Burgundy, quietly awaiting death, which he had eluded through five or six coups d'état, riots, and revolutions. These long and somewhat ponderous Memoirs will give the historians some firsthand information on at least three different subjects; first, the provincial administration during the last months of the declining empire, when sedition and conspiracies were rife on every side; second, the revolutions of 1830 and 1848 as seen by a man who was in the thick of the fight; last and most important of all, the municipal administration of Paris by one of its most efficient and hardworking Prefects, who started out to give the Parisians "water, air, and shade," and won by his far-reaching reforms the gratitude of all classes and by his public works paved the way for Haussmann and Alphand. If this volume of figures and facts contains few portraits, it is not devoid, however, of interesting sidelights on some of the makers of history whom Rambuteau had occasion to approach. He confirms what we knew of Napoleon's temper which more than once was displayed at the sittings of the Council of State; he gives some interesting instances of the blind optimism of Louis Philippe a few days before the outbreak of the revolution; finally, the reception he received from the Duchesse d'Angoulême confirms M. Lenôtre's statement about her character, showing that everybody is agreed in lamenting in the daughter of Louis XVI the absence of all that is "tender and womanly." The translation is edited with the usual care of American and English publishers and has a sufficient index. Few mistakes can be charged to the translator, who, however, ought to know that the so-called "reformers" of Montauban are the Calvinists, known in French as "réformés."

"The Character of Jesus," by the Rev. Dr. Charles Edward Jefferson, contains twenty-six Sunday evening discourses delivered by their author in the Broadway Tabernacle of this city during the last two winters (Thomas Y. Crowell & Co.). The volume is popular in character. While Dr. Jefferson professes to have studied the New Testament criticism of the last thirty years, he shows no evidence of serious wrestling with its problems. The narratives of the Fourth Gospel are employed indiscriminately with those of the Synoptics. Nevertheless Dr. Jefferson has a vigorous facility in expressing useful truths. His chapters on "The Strength of Jesus," "His Poise," "His Firmness," "His Candor," and other like topics, may be read by men of all casts of mind with profit and gratitude. A volume composed in this manner is necessarily somewhat discursive and repetitious.

The Catholic priest, Heinrich Hansjakob, who as a story-teller has long been popular among Protestants and his own church people, has lately added to his long list of publications "Verlassene Wege: Tagebuchblätter" (Stuttgart: A. Bonz & Co.). The collection consists of narratives of his journeys in recent years, particularly in South Germany.

The Studien zur Geschichte des neueren Protestantismus, edited by Dr. Heinrich Hoffmann and Leopold Zscharnack (Giessen: Alfred Töpelmann), will publish new or rare sources of information for the study of early Protestantism. The first *Quellenheft* contains Spalding's "Bestimmung des Menschen" (1748) and "Wert der Andacht" (1755), with an introduction by Horst Stephan; and Heft iii gives a translation of John Toland's "Christianity Not Mysterious" (1696), rendered by W. Lunde, to which are added Leibnitz's "Annotatiunculae" of 1701.

One of the most striking figures among the Danish men of letters to-day is Johannes V. Jensen, who has made his reputation within two years. The curious mixture of grotesque fancy and acute observation in his early fiction set him apart from the rest of his countrymen, and, indeed, his contemporaries, and drew upon him the attention of German publishers, who at once secured him for their market. He is now a frequent contributor to *März*, *Morgen*, and other magazines, and his books appear almost simultaneously in Danish and German. Close upon his interesting novel, "Das Rad," the scene of which was laid in Chicago, comes a volume of essays, "Die neue Welt" (Berlin: S. Fischer & Co.), discussing the new aspects of life embodied in America and appearing also in certain personalities of the old world. He finds in the "peasant culture," of which Björnson is such a splendid specimen, in the modern humanism of Darwin and Grundtvig, in the work of Schillings and others, symptoms of that return to nature and that rejuvenation which is the true renaissance. The book is full of suggestive ideas, and is conceived in a spirit of optimism which is quite different from the tone of most European "moderns." Unlike so many visitors to this country, Jensen does not condemn the essentially American features and manifestations of life that he became familiar with during his sojourn in the United States, but attempts an interpretation of them in connection with phenomena which he has observed elsewhere, and which he traces to a common source. In the introductory chapter on machines, he says that iron construction, the modern Gothic, is the natural style of the present time:

> The houses in America are truly heathenish; their purpose, their utility, was considered before architecture was thought of; it will be seen in some later time that there is beauty in this style. For beauty follows truth as it does strength. The present time is pagan, and pagan is the renaissance which triumphantly comes to all nations.

In Jensen's opinion nothing could have been more fit to celebrate the anniversary of the arrival of the first colonists from

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Europe than the naval reunion in New York. For "the wanderer's heart of Columbus has made of the mortal man an immortal myth, which still unites all migratory natures on both sides of the ocean in the one truth, that all reality begins with a dream." The originality of Jensen's point of view and the freshness of his style make the book unusually enjoyable reading.

A new selection from the works of E. T. A. Hoffmann, who, owing to his spiritual kinship with Edgar Allan Poe, is frequently mentioned at this time, is being published by Max Hesse, Leipzig. There are to be eight volumes, with an introduction by Richard Schaukal.

The Germans have a new, compact, and scholarly Latin dictionary in the "Lateinisches Wörterbuch," prepared by Prof. E. Kraetsch and Prof. A. Mittag (Berlin: Neufeld & Henius). In a volume of one thousand pages the authors have endeavored to cover the ground completely, regarding the style of Cæsar and Cicero as classical, and designating that of others as non-classical, old Latin, vulgar Latin, later Latin, and modern Latin. A list of proper names covering 89 pages completes the book, which shows much independent scholarship and is well adapted to the use of students.

Charles Enschedé, of the firm of Joh. Enschedé en Zonen, printers and typefounders in Haarlem, Holland, has prepared a work on the typefounders of the Netherlands from the fifteenth to the eighteenth century, which will be published soon by De Erven F. Bohn in Haarlem, with Otto Harrassowitz in Leipzig as agent for the international trade. The illustrations, with one exception, will be from types made with the original matrices in the possession of the firm, representing 6 forms from the fifteenth century, 9 from the sixteenth, 52 from the seventeenth, and 305 from the eighteenth. Among the contents of the volume we notice a study of the various Elzevir presses.

Among this year's issues of the Society for Publishing Old Northern Literature (Samfund til Udgivelse af Gammel Nordisk Litteratur), Copenhagen, is to be noted an edition of the old Icelandic vellum manuscript of encyclopædic nature, listed as No. 194 in the Arnamagnæan Collection of Manuscripts, published under the title of "Alfroedi Islenzk," by Dr. Kr. Kaalund, the librarian of the collection. This is the first edition of the manuscript in question, which is very interesting as showing the range of the knowledge possessed by Icelandic ecclesiastic and monastic scholars at the beginning of the fourteenth century.

That indefatigable Icelandic scholar and interpreter of Icelandic Scaldic poetry, Prof. Finnur Jónsson of Copenhagen University, has recently issued two works of importance to the student of Germanic philology. One is a "History of the Icelandic and Old Norwegian Literature (Copenhagen: G. E. C. Gad), a one-volume abbreviation, for the use of students, of the same author's great three-volume work on the same subject (previously noticed in these columns). The other is a text edition, with interpretation, of the "Old Norwegian and Icelandic Scaldic Poetry," published by the Commission for the Arnamagnæan Fund, through the Gyldendal Publishing House, Copenhagen and Chicago. In the field of Scandinavian philology an authoritative and critical and at the same time conservative edition of the existing monuments of Scaldic poetry is a matter of prime importance; and it is well therefore that the work has been undertaken by a master hand.

A young Scandinavian author who has lately obtained considerable European renown, as attested by the fact that his latest book is simultaneously published in Christiania, Paris, Milan, and Utrecht, is the Norwegian, Johan Bojer, whose novel "Vort Rige" (Our Kingdom) has just been brought out by the Gyldendal Publishing House (Copenhagen and Chicago). The book, which has for hero a rather sympathetic young man who seems to be undeservedly persecuted by an unsympathetic fate, deserves to be read by those who would follow literary developments in Scandinavia.

The year-end at Paris has been fruitful of what was once called polite literature. Pierre Brun issues a limited edition (twelve francs) of "Savinien de Cyrano Bergerac" (Daragon), unravelling the history and legend of this *gentilhomme parisien* from Lebret to Edmond Rostand. "Études de la littérature française" (sixth series, Perrin), by the proximately *académisable* René Doumic, extends from St. Francis de Sales to Jules Lemaître's "Racine." While not startling or revolutionary, such criticism is full of cultivated amenity. We tread a more combative field with the veteran Edmond Lepelletier in "Émile Zola," his life and work (Mercure de France). M. Lepelletier was one of the earliest fanatics of the Naturalist school, and, though he later differed with its founder in politics, he still sees by the day that is dead. It is, perhaps, the most complete book yet published on the man who for a few years overshadowed grimly all the other writers of France.

Polite literature would be little without polished language; and recent disquieting agitations have drawn out a number of useful books on French itself. Albert Dauzat's "La Langue française d'aujourd'hui" (Armand Colin) treats of the evolution and present problems of the speech of France. Even as radical a Deputy as Charles Maurice Couyba (the school poet Maurice Boukay) stood up in Parliament in the debate on the university budget, to say that the glory of France, its language, was deteriorating under the modern system of education. André Beaunier begins at the beginning, "Contre la Réforme de l'orthographie" (Plon-Nourrit), a spirited piece of writing *pour la défence française*. Gustave Lanson of the Sorbonne, in a sort of university extension series, publishes "L'Art de la prose" (Annales politiques et littéraires); and even Emerson, though he did not care for it nearly so much as for Montaigne, would have agreed with Matthew Arnold that no modern language has prose like that of the French classics.

Perhaps not so important, and certainly not at all of the university, but equally and superlatively French, is the Comtesse de Gencé's "Le Code mondain de la jeune fille," a handbook of proper doing and acting for the entire life of the young person, from her entrance into the *monde* until safely arrived at her *fiançailles*, within sight of her goal—marriage (Bibliothèque d'ouvrages practiques). Dr. Cabanès, who is constantly peering into the most intimate corners of other days, publishes a contrasting "Mœurs intimes du passé" (A. Michel), which is not always for the young person's reading, although he expounds things as innocent as how our grandmothers blew their noses.

Antonio Fogazzaro's novels, especially "The Saint," which called out a Papal bull and a syllabus, have almost obscured his poems. Yet it was as a poet that he first won recognition, and now he has collected in a single volume "Le Poesie," which comprises what he desires to have stand as his poetic product. The book has for frontispiece a recent portrait of Senator Fogazzaro (Milan: Baldini, Castoldi & Co.).

The sixth general convention of the Religious Education Association will be held at Chicago, February 10-12. The special programme of the Department of Universities and Colleges, just issued, announces a symposium on "The Problem of Religious Instruction and Religious Influence in State Universities." The following are the contributions to it: "Statement of the Problem," President Henry S. Pritchett of the Carnegie Foundation; "The State University and the Religious Denominations," the Rev. Joseph W. Cochran, secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Education, Philadelphia; "The State University and the School of Theology," Dean Shailer Mathews, University of Chicago; "Religious Instruction in State Universities from the Legal Standpoint," Chancellor Frank Strong, University of Kansas; "What Can Be Done and What Cannot Be Done," President Cyrus Northrop, University of Minnesota; "The State University of Iowa Plan for Religious Education," Chancellor George E. MacLean, University of Iowa. To a symposium on "Moral and Religious Influences as Related to Environment of Student Life" there will be the following contributions: "Dormitory Life for College Men," President Charles F. Thwing, Western Reserve; "Dormitory Life for College Women," Dean Marion Talbot, University of Chicago; "Factors in the Dormitory Problem," President Richard Cecil Hughes, Ripon College; "The Private Dormitory," President Charles W. Eliot, Harvard; "The Private Boarding-house for College Women," Mrs. Mary Bidwell Breed, adviser of women, University of Missouri; "The College Sorority as a Substitute for the Woman's Dormitory," Mrs. Cora Stranahan Woodward, adviser of women, University of Wisconsin; general discussion, introduced by Prof. Charles F. Kent, Yale. "The College Fraternity as a Factor in the Religious and Moral Life of Students" will be treated as follows: "History and Early Ideals of the Greek Letter Societies," Albert P. Jacobs, Detroit; "The Fraternity of To-day," Clarence F. Birdseye, New York; "The College Fraternity in the State University," President Edmund J. James and Dean Thomas A. Clark, University of Illinois; "The College Fraternity as an Ally in Maintaining Institutional Standards," President Guy Potter Benton, Miami University; discussion, Prof. Ernest H. Lindley, Indiana University, Prof. William A. Scott, University of Wisconsin, and Prof. Henry M. Bates, University of Michigan. "The Higher Education as a Preparation for Life on the Moral and Religious Side" will be discussed as follows: "Preparation of the College Student for Social Service,"

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Prof. John M. Gillette, University of North Dakota; "Agencies for Deepening the Spiritual Life of the College," Prof. Edwin F. Starbuck, University of Iowa.

The Baltimore Association for the Promotion of the University Education of Women offers a fellowship of $500 for the year 1909-1910 available for study at an American or European University. As a rule this fellowship is awarded to candidates who have done one or two years of graduate work, preference being given to women from Maryland and the South. All applications must be sent before March 20, 1909, to the chairman of the Committee on Award, Dr. Mary Sherwood, The Arundel, Baltimore.

Arthur William A'Beckett, novelist and dramatist, for many years one of the chief writers for *Punch*, died in London, January 14. He was born in Fulham in 1844, son of the Gilbert Abbott A'Beckett, who wrote the "Comic History of England." At an early age the young A'Beckett entered journalism as editor of the *Glowworm*. Later he was connected with the *Britannia Magazine*, was a special correspondent in the Franco-German war, and was editor of the *Sunday Times*, of the *Naval and Military Magazine*, and of *John Bull*. Some of these undertakings were an outlet for the energy which was not consumed by his labors on the staff of *Punch*, from 1874 to 1902. He was also the author of several three-act comedies, and was active in the Society of Authors. His publications are: "Comic Guide to the Royal Academy" (with his brother Gilbert, 1863-64), "Fallen Among Thieves" (1869), "Our Holiday in the Highlands" (1874), "The Shadow Witness," and "The Doom of St. Quirec" (with Sir F. C. Burnand, 1875-76), "The Ghost of Grimstone Grange" (1877), "The Mystery of Mostyn Manor" (1878), "Tracked Out," "Hard Luck," "Stone Broke" (1879-81), "Papers from Pumphandle Court" (1884), "Modern Arabian Nights" (1885), "The Member for Wrottenborough" (1895), "Greenroom Recollections" (1896), "The Modern Adam" (1899), "The A'Becketts of *Punch*" (1903), "The Tunnel Mystery" (1905), "Recollections of a Humorist" (1907).

Fernand Bournon, a member of the staff of the *Journal des Débats*, has died in his fifty-second year. Besides his newspaper work, he wrote many books on the antiquities of Paris, and published seventy-seven volumes of a collection of "Monographies des communes du département de la Seine."

Hermann Jahnke, teacher, novelist, and playwright, has died, at the age of sixty-three. Much of his writing is in Niederdeutsch, his best-known book being "Nahwer Bismarck," published in 1875.

## CARL SCHURZ'S REMINISCENCES.

*The Reminiscences of Carl Schurz.* Vol. III, 1863-1869; with a Sketch of His Life and Public Services from 1869 to 1896, by Frederic Bancroft and William A. Dunning, Pp. x+486. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co.

There is but one serious disappointment in this third and last volume of Schurz's "Reminiscences": the Reminiscences proper break off almost at the beginning of Grant's Administration and of Schurz's own service in the Senate. This is a period which the careful, formal historians have now invaded, and it is a pity they cannot have the benefit of Schurz's intimate knowledge of its men and causes. His judgments, made always from a point of view peculiarly elevated and detached, yet strengthened always by a human and sympathetic intuition and by a rich experience, would probably have been more valuable than those of any one of his contemporaries. The loss to the general reader is hardly less; for the autobiography keeps its engaging quality to the end.

Schurz's children have done well to entrust Mr. Bancroft and Professor Dunning with the task of continuing the story; better, in fact, than they could well have expected. For ordinarily, when two writers collaborate, the result is disappointing in point of form; yet this sketch strikes us as rather better written than either Mr. Bancroft's "Seward" or Professor Dunning's "Reconstruction." The main facts of Schurz's later career are set forth carefully, with good judgment, with sympathy. The only general criticism which suggests itself is that we do not find in this biographic part what the autographic part, of course, could not give—a Boswellian account of the man himself, with ample anecdotal illustration. Schurz had a most interesting and engaging personality. He was extremely good company. We wish that we might be oftener introduced into his home, and the circle of his friends. But perhaps, with the modesty that characterizes the sketch, its authors have meant to leave this opportunity to whoever, notwithstanding the "Reminiscences," shall attempt a complete Life.

Schurz's own story of the years 1863-1869 takes up considerably more than half the volume. Gettysburg comes first, and the chapter will no doubt rank as one of the best of the many accounts of the great fight by eye-witnesses. Gettysburg and Chattanooga, however, close the list of important battles in which Schurz had a part. In 1864, he found the call to service on the hustings, in defence of Lincoln's administration, more compelling than the rather tame military duties assigned to him for the time being; and when he went back to the front the end was close at hand. But he had proved himself no mere holiday soldier, and his experience of American warfare had been stern enough to make him combat vigorously, a few years later, in his native country, and in no less a presence than Bismarck's, the assumption of superiority for the more elaborately disciplined soldiers of Europe over those he had led and faced on this side of the Atlantic.

It was but a single step from the fighting to the still more prominent rôle he played in Reconstruction. This last is no doubt the part of his public service which present-day historians are most disposed to criticise. His motives they will hardly assail. But his well-known report on conditions in the South immediately after the war, in which he advocated giving the ballot to the blacks at once, supplied arguments for the Congressional leaders who overthrew the Presidential plan of reconstruction and substituted a plan of their own which is now, by many students of the period, condemned as partisan, if not vindictive, in motive, and which all know to have produced, in actual operation, detestable results. Not much is here added to the mass of fact and observation in the "Report," but we learn a good deal about the circumstances under which it was written, and also—for the first time—the precise character of Schurz's break with Andrew Johnson. To that unlucky President Schurz shows little leniency; but Johnson, exasperating as he remains for his tactlessness, for the matchless untimeliness of his alternate displays of stubbornness and weakness, nevertheless emerges from this particular arraignment, as from others, with some measure of the reader's sympathy. That is a feeling which finds its way into the histories, along with a more and more unfavorable feeling towards Sumner and Stevens. Schurz firmly denies that the grant of suffrage to the freedmen was meant as a punishment for their former masters; yet he admits that Stevens was not without hatred for the slave-owners. He himself continues to justify the act by the only reasoning which appeals to the hindsight of a later generation—that it was necessary, in order to keep the whites from reducing the blacks to some form of slavery or semi-slavery. Against this view one is now bound to set the contrary view of J. F. Rhodes and Professor Dunning. We are persuaded also that Schurz makes too little of the purely partisan motive of the Republican majority in Congress. Perhaps, in this, he was misled by his own freedom from such a spirit.

We turn with pleasure from this most painful chapter in American history back to the earliest scenes of Schurz's life. His account of his visit to Germany in 1867 is entirely fascinating. For an American reader, there is a curious pride in the reception he got, and particularly in the extraordinary interview with Bismarck. Probably no other passage in the entire three volumes will be read so often. Doubtless Schurz himself was by this time a good enough American to relish such recognition more keenly than if he had remained a merely European republican.

But he had lost no whit of devotion to his old ideals when he came back and threw himself once more into American politics. Of that devotion there

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

is no more creditable instance than his leadership of the Liberal Republican movement of 1870-1872, unsuccessful as the movement was. Because of its failure, historians incline to neglect it. Perhaps they are right. But the Republican party stood then at the parting of the ways. It had not yet entered fully upon the course which in a few years cost it so many of its purest members. It was not yet irrevocably committed to high protection, or completely in the control of the interests which profited by that policy; and, on the other hand, there was in its own ranks a decided reaction against its severity with the South. In fine, there was still so much virtue in it that we cannot set Schurz down as a visionary because he hoped to purify it from within. Mere mischance had much to do with the unfortunate outcome of his enterprise.

Meanwhile, he himself had entered the Senate; and there we must leave him, on the eve of some of the finest triumphs of his career. How he himself felt when he took his seat as a Senator he has told us, and there is hardly a paragraph in the book which better deserves to be quoted:

> I remember vividly the feelings which almost oppressed me as I first sat down in my chair in the Senate chamber. Now I had actually reached the most exalted public position to which my boldest dreams of ambition had hardly dared to aspire. I was still a young man, just forty. Little more than sixteen years had elapsed since I had landed on these shores, a homeless waif saved from the wreck of a revolutionary movement in Europe. Then I was enfolded in the generous hospitality of the American people opening to me, as freely as to its own children, the great opportunities of the new world. And here I was now, a member of the highest law-making body of the greatest of republics. Should I ever be able fully to pay my debt of gratitude to this country, and to justify the honors that had been heaped upon me? To accomplish this, my conception of duty could not be pitched too high. I recorded a vow in my own heart that I would at least honestly endeavor to fulfil that duty; that I would conscientiously adhere to the principle *salus populi suprema lex;* that I would never be a sycophant of power nor a flatterer of the multitude; that, if need be, I would stand up alone for my conviction of truth and right; and that there would be no personal sacrifice too great for my devotion to the Republic.

To this we may well add these sentences from a letter written by Schurz some years later, while he was Secretary of the Interior, to a Missouri correspondent who urged him to use appointments to office as a means of strengthening his own Liberal Republican following:

> As you do not expect a reply in detail, I would only say that in the management of what is called the patronage in Missouri, I shall feel in duty bound, as far as I exercise an influence, to act upon those principles with regard to the civil service which I have always advocated. This will preclude anything and everything like a personal policy looking to ulterior ends. Ever since I have been in official life I have adhered to the rule of regarding the official position occupied by me at the time, as the last one ever to be held by me, and as decisive of my reputation as a public man.

The proof-reading, as in the earlier volumes, has evidently not been particularly good. A portrait of Charles Francis Adams appears on page 344, where one would expect to find, instead, that of his father. There is an index.

## CURRENT FICTION.

*An Immortal Soul.* By W. H. Mallock. New York: Harper & Bros.

The problem of multiple personality has been repeatedly set forth in fiction, but never so painstakingly as here, and never from precisely the same point of view. Mr. Mallock puts it as a theological poser: if a person is several persons, what about his soul? An imaginary case is worked out with much ingenuity, the case of a young girl introduced upon the scene first as one person, then as another. With the aid of a simple machinery devised by her parents and physician, a shift of name and costume accompanies each shift of personality, and she readily passes as her own half-sister. This might easily have been made the occasion of amusing complications on the "Vice-Versa" order; but Mr. Mallock's purpose is a serious one, and he does not permit himself to be led astray by the Comic Spirit. Much of the time we might fancy ourselves in a laboratory rather than a studio. Yet the story is not without a leisurely, whimsical, well-nigh Peacockian flavor. The discourse of Mr. Barton the ritualistic parson, Dr. Thistlewood the materialist physician, and Lord Cotswold the dilettante, sensualist, and mystic, remind one of some of those immortal communings at Gryll Grange or Crochet Castle. But how Peacock would have rumbled at the tendency of these discourses!

The story begins in an orthodox way with Miss Nest Vivian falling in love with the middle-aged baronet who has done distinguished things in the Far East. However, he amounts to very little in the end; the real hero is the high-church parson, Mr. Barton. He falls in love with her, and fancies himself engaged to her (she fancying herself engaged to the baronet) when a thunderstorm converts her into her other self, Miss Enid Wynn. If Miss Vivian is a nice English girl of yielding sensibilities and churchly leanings, Miss Wynn is a brusque, mannish, sporting young person. She comports herself rather outrageously, and in turn, under the shock of a slight accident, gives place to Miss Vivian. Neither of these persons has knowledge of the other: the question is to which the body legitimately belongs? Which is the real self or soul? The book is rather unnecessarily encumbered with scientific terminology.

---

*Felice.* By John Luther Long. New York: Moffat, Yard & Co.

This is one of Mr. Long's characteristically pretty and sentimental and pathetic tales. The smile and the tear are present in distracting juxtaposition, as advertised. The method is rather under suspicion in these days in coldly critical circles; but it still has its public utility. The Christmas stories over which Dickens and his audience were wont to weep together, are not yet actually out of date; among us Bret Harte took up the strain, and after him who more eloquently than the author of "Madame Butterfly"? We make a little less obvious use of the machinery, the Christmas bells, the yule-log, and so on; but we retain the spirit of it perfectly—that dear old "God bless-us-every-one" spirit which Boz popularized rather than invented. We do not recall that the word Christmas is employed in the story of "Felice," but the atmosphere of that blessed and somewhat emotional season is about it. The hero is a more amiable Scrooge, whose pride leads him to an act for which his susceptibility causes him voluptuously to atone. The flamboyant barber, who is represented as king of the Italian colony in New York, is an amusing figure, worthy, perhaps, to be included in that edifying compilation sure to be made some time under the title, "The Barber in Fiction."

---

*The Cradle of the Rose.* By the author of "The Martyrdom of an Empress." New York: Harper & Bros.

The story is laid in Brittany, and deals with a recent Royalist plot organized by the Lady Clanvowe, wife of an English diplomat. This unusual heroine is of aristocratic Breton birth, possesses fabulous wealth, perfect physique, silver hair, and a ravishing skill on the violin. It is merely an accident, however, that she fascinates the rather colorless young Breton officer who figures in a neutral way as the hero. The Royalist plot comes to nothing, nor does the young man's love: lover, lady, and plot sink silently together into the sea. The romantically tragic futility of it all is rightly conceived, and the author has spared no pains to work out the conception. The scene is illustrated with water-color drawings by the author; each chapter is introduced with a poem by "M.M." (also, the author?); local color is laboriously worked in; in short, an earnest effort is made to interpret poetically the spirit of old Bri-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

tany—its gray skies and stormy, sea-smitten coast, its sturdy peasantry, its loyalty, its sullen piety, and dark superstitions. The setting is admirable. One waits with increasing irritation for some one to do something; but, as a certain historian said of the French Constitution, the story "will not march." The author refuses to release the hands of his creatures and let them go about their business. The lavish descriptive impulse is allowed to run riot and overpower the narrative. In the end, one feels that the work is too heavy for an idyll and too static for a novel.

---

*The Forbidden Boundary and Other Stories.* By B. L. Putnam Weale. New York: The Macmillan Co.

Mr. Weale as an interpreter of Asia is possibly unrivalled. He is at once geographer, historian, ethnologist, and dramatist. Particularly in defining the "forbidden boundary" between white races and yellow and brown, and the penalties for overstepping it, is he an expert. The Chinaman is shown in many poses, both familiar and new. He may be a gentleman and scholar, or he may be all the less desirable things that popular writing has shown him to be. Says one of the white characters:

> In the whole world, there are no gamblers like the Chinese—nowhere. . . . But when they lose, they do not blow out their brains like our fools; they merely begin again, and with the aid of an enlarged experience, hope for better luck. It is the nation of the future, this China; they are the world's marvels; they are good business men and desperate gamblers combined."

Not alone the Chinese, but Japanese, Asiatic islanders, city crowds, and weird water-people—all are as daily mates to this deeply-versed observer. Vast is his material, immense his mastery of detail, pungent his generalizations.

And yet he is not an unqualified success as a story-teller. There is a surfeit of the dreadful, and what from an artistic point of view is worse, a profuseness, relevant and irrelevant, that makes of several of the stories in this volume sheer rigmaroles. The best told one is also one of the most barbarous, "The Cult of Sparta." Here every paragraph tells. "The Enemy," a tale of a wonderful swimmer, is anotner that ranks among the less top-heavy; and moreover, though shuddery, it is not unspeakable.

But profound convictions as to the unknowableness of Asia, and the destruction that awaits the too-close investigator, an eye for the cryptic and an ear for the creepy, do not establish proof of the story-telling genius. Mr. Weale's is powerful but intermittent. And gore and bore never yet went well together.

---

*The Making of the English Constitution: 449-1485.* By Albert Beebe White. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. $2.00 net.

This work illustrates the truth that to write an historical work that is neither chronological nor topical is dangerous, unless the author is able to organize and interpret his period in such a way that the evolution of political ideas and institutions is made clear and definite. That Professor White does not possess such ability in marked degree must be apparent to any reader who attempts to follow his interpretation of the formative period of English constitutional history. Although interesting in parts as an exposition of the ideas of the late Prof. F. W. Maitland and of Prof. G. B. Adams, the result of Prof. White's labors can hardly be regarded as a successful textbook, and it adds nothing to our knowledge.

The first part contains a brief survey of Anglo-Saxon institutions in which controverted questions are carefully avoided and loose generalizations, such as those on the shires, hundreds, and boroughs, are given prominence. The author does not seem well acquainted with the problems of the pre-conquest period, and, in fact, the whole treatment of Anglo-Saxon local government is unnecessarily vague and confusing. The account of the central organs of government which follows is somewhat clearer, as is also the concluding chapter of Part i, dealing with the Anglo-Saxon Church. The author should know, however, that the old city of Lichfield in Staffordshire is not "Litchfield" (p. 65), whatever may be the Connecticut usage. In Part ii, the Norman Conquest and its immediate results are dealt with in a fairly satisfactory manner and the influence of Norman institutions on English government is well brought out, even if a little over-emphasized. This, on the whole, is the strongest part of Prof. White's treatise and shows careful study. In Part iii, the making of the judiciary, the executive, and the making of Parliament are discussed along general lines in the order named. While this arrangement may be both criticised and defended, the amount of space and attention devoted to a set of courts that are now obsolete and to the history of law seems excessive in a work on the making of the Constitution. In fact, it can only be accounted for by recognizing that the author is under the spell of Maitland. The treatment of the executive is comparatively brief, but enough is said to indicate that regarding the Council the author adopts a theory that few students would endorse—namely of practically absolute continuity between the Norman and early Plantagenet *curia regis* and the later Council. In the final chapters, considerably less space is allotted to the making of Parliament than to the judiciary, although the Parliamentary system is undoubtedly the most important part of English government. The development of the two houses is not definitely explained, and the question of borough representation is obscure. It is quite certain, for example, that in the early fourteenth century there were some boroughs that wished representation in order that they might claim to be royal towns, rather than mesne towns under the jurisdiction of some lord.

Prefaced to the text is a well-selected and annotated bibliography of standard treatises and monographs. We note, however, the omission of a number of the older standard works that are still valuable and also of some recent contributions, such as Ballard's study of the Domesday boroughs and of the Great Inquest. Following the bibliography is a list of topical readings in connection with the text which will be of value to both teachers and students. It is to be regretted that the author did not include more bibliography and footnote references in the work itself, even at the cost of omitting some of the rather long verbatim extracts from well-known works. In spite of a few printer's errors, the typography and general appearance of the book are excellent.

---

*The Catholic Encyclopedia:* An International Work of Reference on the Constitution, Doctrine, Discipline, and History of the Catholic Church. Edited by Charles G. Herbermann and others. Vol. IV: Cland-Diocesan. New York: Robert Appleton Co.

The successive volumes of the great "Catholic Encyclopedia" appear with unfailing regularity and amply sustain the reputation of the work. The fourth volume contains a number of important articles, more or less popular, which exhibit in general the same spirit of fairness that characterizes the earlier volumes. Only a few can be mentioned here.

The long article on the Congo Free State, from the pen of a Belgian writer, presents the common Belgian point of view, but its defence of the government is commendably free from passion. The Concordat of 1801 gives occasion for a Catholic, but not unfair, review of the present ecclesiastical situation in France. Collectivism and Communism are discussed in a temperate and judicious way; and the subject of Coeducation is handled with admirable good sense. The sacrament of Confirmation receives careful and discriminating treatment, and its history is given with conspicuous candor. Rather out of line with the scholarly character of the article as a whole is the popular and un-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

technical definition with which it opens:

A sacrament in which the Holy Ghost is given to those already baptized in order to make them strong and perfect Christians and soldiers of Jesus Christ.

The freedom from prejudice in the use of terms of Protestant origin, remarked upon in the notice of an earlier volume, appears in the title Counter-Reformation, under which is given an account of the movement commonly known among Protestants by that name. It is written from the Catholic point of view, to be sure, but under the circumstances with remarkable fairness and moderation. The long article on the Crusades is scholarly and up to date, and in the articles on Biblical Criticism and on various Biblical books the critical view is frankly given, though the authors themselves declare in most cases for the traditional position. This is particularly noticeable in connection with the Book of Daniel. In a long and instructive archæological article on Cross and Crucifix, the Catholic attitude toward the use of images in worship is clearly stated and defended at some length. Deism is discussed in a fair enough spirit, but, unfortunately, the treatment proceeds wholly along traditional lines and reveals no special insight or independent knowledge.

As usual, there are a number of papal biographies. In this case all the Clements come in for notice, including the apostolic father, Clement of Rome, who appears, in accordance with ancient tradition, long ago discredited by historical scholarship, as the fourth Pope! The elaborate article on Councils contains a careful discussion of the relation between conciliar and papal infallibility, which is summed up as follows:

Conciliar decrees approved by the Pope have a double guarantee of infallibility: their own and that of the infallible pope. . . . It should, however, be borne in mind that the council without the Pope has no guarantee of infallibility, therefore the conciliar and the papal infallibilities are not two separate and addible units, but one unit with single or double excellence.

---

*The Imperial Gazetteer of India.* Vols. XV-XXIV, Karāchi—Zīra. New edition, published under the authority of His Majesty's Secretary of State for India in Council. New York: Henry Frowde. $2 net each.

In 1869 the late Sir W. W. Hunter was directed by the Viceroy, Lord Mayo, to organize a comprehensive survey of the Indian Empire, a work which involved the compilation of local gazetteers and their consolidation in a condensed form. This immense task was accomplished in twelve years, during which he visited every corner of the peninsula. The results were published in 128 volumes, the condensation in nine volumes, the first edition of the "Imperial Gazetteer." A second edition of fourteen volumes appeared in 1885-7, and now we have to chronicle the completion of the third edition in twenty-four volumes. To the student of India and the life and thought of the people, it is absolutely invaluable; the information contained in it is far more extensive than in similar works on other countries. The general plan is well indicated by the article, filling 144 pages, on the United Provinces. The physical aspects are described first and, after a sketch of the history, there follow accounts of the people, their races, languages, customs, agriculture, arts and manufactures, trade, famine, administration, finance, public works, army, education, and medical facts.

A careful examination of these concluding volumes greatly strengthens the impression made by the earlier ones of their being a wonderful treasury of interesting and encouraging facts. The mental awakening of the Indian is manifest everywhere. The existence of public libraries is often noted. In one small native State, Kolhāpur, there are fifteen, and eight local newspapers. In the Madras Presidency there are 125 newspapers and periodicals; while in 1904 there were 1,125 books published, of which only twenty-nine were translations; a considerable number were native poems, novels, and plays. In the city of Madras there is a Literary Society with a library of over 45,000 volumes, a Fine Art Society, an Agri-Horticultural Society, a Musical Association, and an Amateur Dramatic Society. Another illustration of the civilizing influence of British rule is the fact that, while the population of the United Provinces is over four millions greater than in 1881, the police force is 5,000 less.

The only error noticed is that the height of Mt. Godwin Austen, as given in the article on Kashmir, differs from that on the map to be found in each of the volumes, as well as the special map of Kashmir. It is difficult also to account for the omission of any reference under the respective words to the Mustagh or Karakoram Range, and especially to the famous Karakoram Pass.

---

*The Privileged Classes.* By Barrett Wendell. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. $1.25 net.

Electing to ride in street-cars at the afternoon rush hours, Professor Wendell has found himself compelled, along with other passengers apparently educated and solvent, to stand while certain sturdy and begrimed representatives of labor, with dinner-pails beneath their widely-separated knees, calmly occupied two sittings apiece. Instead of losing his temper—at least for publication—Professor Wendell, as a philosophical man of letters, fell to musing about the situation, pondering seriously, though with a saving touch of ironical humor, the strange transition by which the privileged class of the old régime, with its admitted right to space, and exemption, and support had given place in our day to the privileged class of wage-earners. What shocked him most was the fact that many of his friends, when consulted about the matter, expressed no surprise, and even thought the new arrangement entirely natural and proper. The essay which resulted from these experiences and meditations, given first as an address before the Twentieth Century Club of Chicago in January last, had the fortune to be garbled by the press and somewhat sharply criticised; whereupon the author wrote it out for the Boston *Transcript*, and now gives it, very properly, the place of honor in his latest book.

One cannot but wish that Professor Wendell would get on with fewer words and less involved and repetitious phrasing; for the readers whom it would be most worth while for him to reach are, as a class, pretty busy. Questions of form aside, however, we are frankly of those who hold his criticism to be timely and, on the whole, much to the point. Professor Wendell is not, of course, the first to show how tyrannous is a majority once the majority has come to power, or how full of grave possibilities is a social order in which the wage-earner may successfully demand such startling privileges as a vested right to work, immunity from discharge save for weighty cause, and support in sickness and old age. It is rather the deft and cultured way in which he pricks the bubbles of our conceit and complacency that makes his writing interesting. Persons of socialistic bent will not relish being told that the real American Revolution is not the war that separated us from Great Britain, but the social change which has led large sections of society to view with equanimity socialistic schemes for the expropriation of private property, that so we may be rid of the embarrassments of great private fortunes; though this is, after all, only what the keenest students of social progress have been warning us of for years. College professors and officials, entangled in the meshes of curricula and administration, yet anxious for recognition and influence, will very likely not thank a mere man of letters, as Professor Wendell is fond of calling himself, for telling them that college education to-day is chiefly notable for its ineffectiveness; yet the fact remains that the college is the least satisfactory part of our educational system, and has urgent need to justify itself. We commend "The Privileged Classes," therefore, as a useful and palatable antidote for national pride and self-satisfaction. To the

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

weary and hungry it will not, indeed, suffice for a full meal, but its stimulating phrases and flashes of social insight may at least afford the refreshment of afternoon tea.

## Science.

*The Coming Science.* By Hereward Carrington. Pp. 389. Boston: Small, Maynard & Co. $1.50 net.

In the growth of language, a word often gains connotations which cling to it even when it comes to be employed in a sense wholly unrelated to the original meaning. Of this process we have a notable example in the current use of the word "spirit" and its cognate terms. "Spirit" was originally employed to refer to a hypothetical entity inhabiting the body during life and leaving it at death. The derivation shows that it was identified with the breath of life, which for those who first used it thus must have seemed as far as possible removed from the hard, and ponderable, and measurable matter with which their daily activities made them familiar. When we consider that, as matter is now defined, this very breath is material, we perceive that for us it would be the crassest materialism to identify what we mean by spirit with something merely gaseous; and we are too likely to assume, as some authorities have done, that those who first conceived of the distinction between matter and spirit were thinking in what we know as materialistic terms. However that may be, it seems fairly clear that men who were led to make this distinction between matter and spirit, must, on introspection, have found themselves moved by diverse and often opposed impulses. Some of these impulses were due to the man's surroundings, and these, while powerful, were in the main ephemeral. Others must have been determined by no external influences, and hence must have appeared to arise in an indefinite way from within the man; and these were in the main less powerful than those of the first type, but were on the whole more persistent, less ephemeral. What wonder then that these latter came to be attributed to that elusive breath-like spirit which was already conceived of as maintaining a mysterious existence within the man's body, yet in a measure detached or detachable from it.

Apart from their connection with the hypothetical spirit, these inner promptings came naturally to receive careful consideration; for they were found to guide to a more effective life, and to be thus of the most profound importance. On the one hand, their significance was from the earliest times bound up with religious aspirations and conceptions, and was proclaimed by priest and prophet. On the other hand, their analysis and correlation as practical forces have given to us the science of ethics with all its philosophical and political implications. It is thus, probably, that the word "spirit," which in the beginning referred to what seem to us quite materialistic conceptions, has come to have an ethical and even religious connotation. We speak of our spiritual life when we have in mind the realm of our higher ideals. The spiritually minded man, as we use the phrase, is one who declines to limit his life by the considerations of opportunism, who aims to foster those of his inner impulses which have for him an essential nobility. Thus the word spirit and its cognate terms have gained fixed connotations of an ethical, but more especially of a religious nature. This higher meaning has become so firmly attached to the word "spirit" and its derivatives that we find it difficult to use them without assuming that we are dealing with what is noble or even sacred; and thus it happens that when we turn to what should be a coldly intellectual inquiry as to the significance of the conception of a human spirit, when we ask what its nature is, and what its form of existence, we all feel that we are moving on an ideally high plane, even if we do not assume that we are actually treading upon holy ground.

Only thus are we able to account for the attitude of the average man toward the hypotheses of the so-called "spiritualists"; an attitude held even among those modern students who, wishing professedly to free themselves from all emotional entanglements, now ask to be called "spiritists." The world is nowadays fairly flooded with books proclaiming this position. The writers, like our author, announce themselves as exponents of a "coming science," and endeavor to confine themselves almost frigidly to the intellectual task of sifting scientific evidence. Nevertheless, the communications which are allowed to appear in such journals as the Proceedings of the Society for Psychical Research indicate clearly much warmth of emotionalism in the wide body of those interested in the phenomena; and beyond this the same sense of the dignity of the research in question pervades the writings of those more or less learned and logical authors who accept the position of judges as to the trustworthiness and significance of the experiences above referred to. These experiences, we may add, are recorded by persons wholly given up to the view that they deal with something that is not only occult, but also sacred.

This attitude is well represented by Mr. Carrington. His work is highly commended in an introduction by Dr. J. H. Hyslop, formerly a professor of logic and ethics, who has written an excellent small logic, and has made certain really keen contributions to details of ethical theory; and Mr. Carrington in his preface pictures himself to us as a cool, intellectual student. When, however, we turn to the substance of the book itself we find ourselves at once in a totally different mental atmosphere. In the very first chapter we are told (p. 2) that "the world has passed through various stages of evolution. First of all, there was the purely animal state" in which "brute force was the ruling power":

> Then the era of *mind* began to dawn. (p. 3.) . . . Mind was first of all devoted, probably, to the furtherance of the desires of the individual organism; but later . . . pure abstract thinking became possible, and altruism . . . began to show itself *through the darkness*. . . . And with this higher (sic) knowledge began to develop that spiritual (sic) self and consciousness of which we are just beginning to catch the first signs. . . . This spiritual side of man that is just becoming manifest may possess powers and potencies. . . . as relatively great when compared to the purely mental world, as that was above the physical and animal world.

This might pass without dissent as a gentle homiletic; but as the writer asks us to look upon him as a logical scientist, we must note the unwarranted and totally erroneous assumption that the "spiritual consciousness" is apart from mere mind; that it is anything other than that special impulsive part of mental experience that satisfies our ideals, which latter, be it noted, are also mental.

Our author then reminds us (p. 5) "that there are few of us who do not admire, not to say envy, any man or woman in whom this spiritual side is highly developed"; there being "a spiritual side latent in all of us, awaiting its development." He thus clearly attaches religio-ethical attributes to his *concept of the spiritual*; and later goes still further in this direction (p. 14):

> Good health does not mean only . . . a healthy animal, but also a more highly educated and advanced, a more *moral* and *spiritual* individual, since the bodily health . . . does, without any doubt affect both the mental and moral nature of man.

Having given these noble connotations to what he thus describes as the spiritual life, he at once turns to the question (p. 17) "whether we consider ourselves the resultant of mere physical forces, or as a spiritual essence or entity having persistence"; and then without more ado he lapses once for all into a discussion of the phenomena presented to us by the defenders of spiritism, and of the arguments against and in favor of the theories they advance.

It is needless to say that so long as a man allows himself to study the subject with the religious or ethical bias implied in such a mode of approach, he will almost certainly fail to discriminate the true from the false, and will

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

be unable to advance our comprehension of the deeply significant problems relating to the nature of human personality, and to the limits of its existence. Naturally, therefore, we discover in Mr. Carrington's work nothing new which is of special value, and small justification for proclaiming the birth of "the coming science." Beyond this proclamation the book does not differ in its main characteristics from many others of a type for which our publishers find a profitable market among the many men and women who look upon spiritistic inquiries as quasi-religious, and who, enjoying mysteries as such, delight in re-reading the records of the same alleged facts, and the same theoretical explanations of them. For our author does not pretend to give more than "a very rapid survey of the field of psychic research, and of the chief theories that might be advanced by way of explanation of the facts"; nor does he attempt "to cite any large number of cases, or make any great showing of proof, for the reason that this field has been covered in many volumes on this subject" (p. 389).

---

When the American battleship fleet found cholera in Manila on its first stop in that port, and the sailors were consequently forbidden to land, and so to spend their money, the Manila merchants raged, and the press, which as advertisers they control, inaugurated a new campaign of criticism of the Health Bureau. This has elicited a valuable and interesting pamphlet of 131 pages, entitled "A History of Asiatic Cholera in the Philippine Islands," dated at Manila, November 5, 1908, and written by Dean C. Worcester, Secretary of the Interior, in the Philippine government, and therefore executive superior of the Bureau of Health. He brings out many hitherto unnoted facts and figures regarding cholera under the Spanish régime, showing that it appeared at least as far back as 1819; that the mortality in the epidemics, and notably that beginning in 1882, was far higher than published figures go to show, and very much greater than under American rule; that officially the Spanish government endeavored to suppress knowledge of it, and to combat it by methods of secrecy; and that it is more than a presumption that cholera has been endemic in the islands at least since 1882. Mr. Worcester then enters into very frank discussion of the present sanitary organization of the islands, the harm done to public health by petty politics, by a press inspired by political motives, by lack of cooperation on the part of the municipal government of Manila, and by the incompetency of Filipino district health officers. In short, for outspokenness, this document is unique among Philippine official documents to date. Of the 202,172 cases and 134,102 deaths from cholera that had occurred in the Philippines since the American occupation to the date of the foregoing document, only 248 cases and 124 deaths have been among Americans, "and this in spite of the fact that during much of this time there have been a large number of American soldiers in the islands." Along the same line, as minimizing the terrors of the Philippine climate for whites, is a note in the Philippine *Journal of Science* (Section B, Medical Sciences, Vol. III, No. 4, pp. 349-352), which cites figures to show "the passing of abscess of the liver among Americans in the Philippines." It remarks on the terror inspired by amœbic dysentery up to 1903, and credits the researches of the Manila scientists with the removal of this terror, and the discovery of methods of prophylaxis whereby "nowadays few amœbic patients lose any time from their duties," and whereby "an intelligent person can learn in a few lessons how to take the necessary colonic injections." In the same number is a paper on "Health Conditions in the Philippines," by W. S. Washburn, chairman of the Philippine Civil Service Board, and himself a physician, which is also highly optimistic in tone.

We have had frequent occasion to refer to Miss Gertrude Jekyll's sound knowledge of garden-craft. Her acquaintance with cultivated plants is wide, and her good taste in turning decorative plants to the best account is everywhere recognized. Therefore a book on gardens, written by her for children ("Children and Gardens," Charles Scribner's Sons), must receive a hearty welcome. The pretty volume before us is a strange medley of odds and ends, put together in rather a whimsical but attractive fashion, with a single end in view, namely, to interest very young children in garden-plants and their surroundings. It has a good deal of sound elementary botany, for the most part so completely sugar-coated as to make the disguise perfect. A child who should appropriate the botanical truths here presented in the most familiar form, would know far more about the structure and the work of vegetation than many amateur horticulturists. If Miss Jekyll had not brought into the book quite so much about cats and cooking, one could recommend the pages to grown-up garden enthusiasts. But, as it is a volume for children, we will let it go at that, and say that adults who read it aloud to children will learn much themselves, especially if the interested listeners do their whole duty in asking questions.

The very title of Otto Lipmann's new volume, viz: "Grundriss der Psychologie für Juristen" (Leipzig: Barth), indicates its modern character. It does not profess to cover the whole subject of psychology, but only some of its leading problems, where the science comes into practical contact with law and its applications.

Brig.-Gen. William Price Craighill died at Charlestown, W. Va., January 18. He was born in the same town in 1833, graduated at West Point, served through the civil war in the Union army, and then and later took part in many engineering enterprises. During the days of the civil war he compiled the "Army Officer's Pocket Companion," which proved of much assistance in the volunteer army, and translated Jomini's "Précis de l'art de la guerre," and Dufour's "Cours de tactique," the late Col. Mendell assisting in the latter translation. In 1894 he was chosen president of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

News comes from India of the death of Major Percy B. Molesworth, at the age of forty-one. He was stationed at Trinkomali, Ceylon, where he made a number of valuable observations of Jupiter and the other planets.

---

# Drama.

"The Barber of New Orleans," the new romantic American play by Edward Childs Carpenter, which William Faversham has just produced in Daly's Theatre, is evidently the work of a beginner, but in some respects it contains more of promise than many recent pieces of superior literary quality and more skilful construction. It shows, for instance, originality and discernment in the choice of a subject, imagination in the invention of details, an appreciation of local color, and an instinctive sense of effective theatrical situation. Moreover, it is really an American play. On the other hand, it is dilatory in action, confused in plot—owing to the employment of two distinct motives—amateurish in arbitrary use of coincidence, and entirely conventional in its development. In selecting 1804 for the date of his play, the author has broken comparatively fresh dramatic ground; and, manifestly, the notion of a Spanish plot against the newly established authority of the United States, to be foiled by a patriotic American, is rich in theatrical possibilities, of which ample indications are offered in the opening scenes; but political and national interests are unwisely subordinated to the transparent problem of the heroine's color and the creation of passionate entanglements which create no suspense or illusion, because their solution is perfectly obvious. Such incidents as the improvised sale of the lady (without documents or proof of any kind), her purchase by the hero by means of a convenient lottery prize, and her ultimate identification are not only patent and futile theatrical tricks, but, by diverting the course of the play from its original channel, affect it disastrously in more ways than one. If Mr. Carpenter had not imposed his ancient and clumsily handled Octoroon motive upon the conspiracy, he might have produced a much more valuable play. But, even as it stands, the piece possesses many qualities which rarely fail to please the general public, and, as it is beautifully mounted and fairly well acted —though with but little of the true romantic glow—by Mr. Faversham, Miss Julie Opp, and their associates, it is likely to prosper. On the whole, the production is creditable, though a long way below the level of "The World and His Wife."

It would not be a very difficult matter to ridicule "The Vampire"—the joint composition of Edgar Allan Woolf and George Sylvester Viereck, produced in the Hackett Theatre on Monday—and laugh it out of court, as pretentious and futile rubbish. but, for all its absurdity, it shows dramatic imagination as well as literary ability. Assuming to be scientific and intellectual drama, it is conspicuously lacking in scientific knowledge and common sense. All the phenomena of telepathy, mesmerism, clairvoyance, Egyptian occultism, and mediæval necromancy are controlled by this modern vampire, who feeds his own imagination by robbing other brains of their ideas. A great literary genius himself, he cultivates the friendship of the finest minds only to prey

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

upon and destroy them, and then, having appropriated their riches, throw them aside like squeezed oranges. There is the germ of a dramatic idea in this, but Messrs. Woolf and Viereck have sterilized it by subjecting it to preposterous melodramatic treatment and involving it in obvious absurdities which make their pseudo-science altogether childish. Parts of the story are well, even eloquently, told, and some of the scenes have a certain theatrical effectiveness, but the piece will seem dull to the ordinary playgoer, while the more thoughtful will find it pretentious and shallow.

"The Easiest Way," the latest play of Eugene Walter, which was produced in the Stuyvesant Theatre on Tuesday evening, needs only a few lines by way of record. Under pretence of enforcing a moral, which is too trite to be of any particular value, it makes a bid for popularity by dealing in bluntly realistic fashion—unrelieved by any touch of literary fancy or dramatic invention—with those coarser phases of city life which have a special attraction for the vulgar, but in thoughtful and decent minds can awaken only sentiments of pity and disgust. Briefly, it is a study of successive steps in the degradation of a fallen woman, with incidental glimpses at some of the darker features of the lower theatrical life. It is not unveracious in detail. On the contrary, regarded as a bit of reporting, it is not badly done. But it is cheap, common, unwholesome stuff, of no artistic, dramatic, or didactic value, which will not add to the reputation of the playwright or reflect any credit upon the management of Mr. Belasco, even if, as a bit of raw sensationalism, it should prove profitable as a commercial speculation. It is a play that would have been impossible in a respectable theatre before the demoralization of the public taste by a shameless press.

John Luther Long's new play, "Kassa," will be presented in the Liberty Theatre Saturday evening, with Mrs. Leslie Carter as the heroine. From the advance notices the piece appears to be a romance full of lurid passion and sensational incident.

Yet another independent dramatic society has been organized in London, the Fortune Playhouse Society, which has begun work with a presentation of the Chester mystery plays. "Pippa Passes," "Comus," and "As You Like It" are next to be undertaken.

Rudolf Besier has written a play of modern life which is soon to be produced at the London Vaudeville Theatre, with Mrs. Patrick Campbell as the heroine and Lynn Harding in the chief male part. It is called "Olive Latimer's Husband." The originality of the play consists partly in the fact that the husband, who is its mainspring, so to speak, is only heard of, never seen.

Levin Ludwig Schücking, editor of the letters of Levin Schücking and Annette von Droste-Hülshof, has written "Shakespeare im literarischen Urteil seiner Zeit" (Heidelberg: Carl Winter).

Friedrich Gundolf has evidently stepped on dangerous ground in undertaking to furnish a new German translation of Shakespeare, "Shakespeare in deutscher Sprache," intended to be an improvement even upon Schlegel. The first volume contains "Coriolanus," "Julius Cæsar," and "Antony and Cleopatra" (Berlin: Bondi). The author draws freely upon the versions of his predecessors; his chief changes consist in making the rendering more literal and more modern.

John E. Ince, the veteran comedian, who had appeared with Edwin Booth, Barrett, McCullough, Adelaide Neilson, Clara Morris, and Mrs. John Drew, died January 18 at Sheepshead Bay. He was born sixty-eight years ago at Wigan, England. He had taken parts in the important plays by Shakespeare and in "The School for Scandal," "Wild Oats," "London Assurance," "Michael Strogoff," "Trial by Jury," and such comic operas as "Pinafore," "Pirates of Penzance," and "Mikado." Recently he appeared as Major Swan in "Pudd'nhead Wilson," and his last appearance was in 1907 in "The Unexpected Happened." For the last ten years he had conducted a dramatic school in this city.

Ernst von Wildenbruch, the best known of Germany's elder dramatists and a poet of high national reputation, died in Berlin January 15. He was born at Beirut, in Syria, where his father was Prussian consul, studied in the University of Berlin, and after a brief military career took up the profession of law. He fought in the war of 1866 against Austria and in the campaigns of 1870-71 in France. Fruit of his war experience were the *Heldenlieder* "Vionville" (1874) and "Sedan" (1875). After experimentation with foreign historical drama, "Die Karolinger," "Christoph Marlow," "Der Mennonit," he began with "Die Quitzows" (1888), a series of plays drawn from Prussian and German history, on which his popularity is mainly based. Among these are "Der Generalfeldoberst" (1889), "Der neue Herr" (1891), "Der Junge von Hennersdorf" (1896), "Heinrich und Heinrichs Geschlecht" (1896), and "Die Tochter des Erasmus" (1900). From his prolific pen have also come several volumes of fiction (the last, "Semiramis," 1904), lyrics, and humor. That swelling patriotism which Germans admire in their *kulturgeschichtliche* imaginative literature, and a mastery of stage technique, are his most striking qualities.

From Berlin the death is announced of Georg Kruse in his seventy-ninth year. He was for many years director of the Berlin National Theatre, and was the author of "Sie Weint," "Sie ist Stumm," "Kriegsgefangen," and "Roland von Berlin."

## Music.

*The Evolution of Modern Orchestration.* By Louis Adolphe Coerne. New York: The Macmillan Co. $3 net.

*Instrumentation.* By Ebenezer Prout. Boston: Oliver Ditson Co. 75 cents.

Orchestration is the youngest branch of music, being not much over a century old, in the modern sense of the term; but so fascinating is it to the public and so easily is a working knowledge of it acquired, compared with a mastery of the other branches of music, that most modern composers, in the words of Tchaikovsky, "strive to atone for their extraordinary poverty of invention by exaggerated coloring." History shows that in all arts a decay of creativeness is likely to coincide with a craze for technical skill and complexity, such as we find in the works of Richard Strauss, Max Reger, and their imitators. This craze manifests itself in the coloring as well as in the structure of the music, and it has degenerated into a sport—a race to see who can be the most extravagant and sensational.

While deploring this latest phase of composition, one cannot but feel that music owes to the newly acquired art of coloring much of its increased popularity, its power over the masses, its effectiveness in depicting moods and intensifying dramatic emotions. Each original composer has, moreover, his own method of orchestrating; as Professor Prout remarks:

> It would be no more possible to an experienced musician to mistake a score of Mozart for one of Wagner than it would for an art connoisseur to mistake a painting by Titian for one by J. W. M. Turner.

Strange to say, Dr. Coerne is the first musical scholar who has undertaken to explain these differences by writing a comprehensive history of orchestration. Lavoix's "Histoire de l'instrumentation" is a comprehensive work, but it appeared before "Parsifal" had been produced, and before some of the best colorists of the nineteenth century—Saint-Saëns, Tchaikovsky, Dvorák, Grieg—had won their full meed of recognition. The nineteenth century therefore seemed to Dr. Coerne a fertile field for research, and to this, after giving a bird's-eye-view of what had been done by preceding generations, he devotes most of his space. An appendix of ninety pages includes illustrative extracts from the works of the thirteen composers who, in the author's opinion, have done most to advance the art of instrumental coloring—Monteverdi, Scarlatti, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Weber, Berlioz, Mendelssohn, Wagner, Saint-Saëns, Tchaikovsky, Dvorák, Richard Strauss.

Like most writers on this subject, Dr. Coerne overrates Berlioz as an innovator and fails to do full justice to Weber and Schubert. Berlioz is responsible for the modern tendency to make extravagant orchestral demands, and he invented many ingenious combinations of instruments; but it is not true that he "discovered the richness of pianissimo brass effects"; Schubert did that before Berlioz, as, for instance, in the "Fierrabras" overture, written in 1823, when Berlioz was only twenty years old. Berlioz could not have known Schubert's orchestral works; but he did know and worship the operas of Weber, and from those he learned many of the things for which he has received credit. It was Weber who inaugurated the orchestral use of characteristic sounds, as

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

distinguished from beautiful sounds (though the germs of such a procedure may be traced back to Méhul and Gluck), and Weber also made a subtle dramatic use of leading motives long before Berlioz, who usually is lauded as the originator of this device. Dr. Coerne gives an eloquent account of Wagner's orchestral glories and the novel means by which they are obtained. He points out the shortcomings of Brahms as a colorist, and, on the other hand, he notes that Grieg's orchestration is "tender, fervent, weird, brilliant, stormy, popular, effective." To Richard Strauss, as representing the latest phase in orchestration, much space is devoted in which the author ingeniously defends this composer against the charge that he forces the instruments into unnatural registers, making the piccolos play trombone parts, as one lampoonist has maintained, and *vice-versa*. In the Strauss music each violinist finds before him difficulties such as formerly only the solo violin was expected to cope with. To the wood-wind are assigned passages that Wagner would have hesitated to write. The players may grumble, but did they not also grumble at Schubert and Mendelssohn for writing passages that now seem child's play?

America is not forgotten in this volume; indeed, Dr. Coerne accords it more honor than it deserves. In addition to Paine, Buck, Foote, Chadwick, MacDowell, and Parker, who have been so fortunate as to have had opportunity to show what they can do, "many another American could be pointed to who, even now, is worthy of being classed in the first rank and who would undoubtedly rise to epoch-making greatness were the opportunity but granted him." We doubt this; our country has produced some good orchestral writers, but none of them has done anything distinctively national or individual in the line of instrumental coloring.

Perhaps it is fortunate that orchestral din and complexity have reached such a climax in Strauss and his imitators, for a reaction is in sight, which will restore color to its normal place as a means and not an end in itself. For this reason one must welcome the issue of a new edition of Professor Prout's primer on instrumentation. It was written while Brahms, Raff, and Wagner were still living, but is particularly timely now, because students can learn from its pages how the older masters were able to obtain with smaller orchestras effects as ravishing, and almost as varied, as those of our day. Young composers, in particular, will do well to heed his hint that they should not write too difficult passages. Such passages, if by Brahms or Wagner, the players will take the trouble to learn; not so, if they are by Smith or Jones.

---

There has just been published at Paris the frank, natural, intimate "Lettres de Georges Bizet" (Calmann-Lévy), with all their touching details of life in the French school at Rome (1857 to 1860), and then during the tragic Commune of 1871. Bizet is known to the world at large by the music of his "Carmen"; it has been the pleasure of many besides Nietzsche, who will be glad to make acquaintance with the man.

The revival of Mozart's "Marriage of Figaro" at the Metropolitan Opera House has proved one of the surprises of the season. This opera has never been really popular here; the recitatives usually dragged, the arias seemed too numerous, and the action was often unintelligible. Thanks to Gustav Mahler, the Mozart specialist, all this has been changed. He omitted some of the arias, lashed the singers in the recitatives, and brought about an acting ensemble that allowed none of the significant details of the plot to escape the attention of the audience. He was aided by a cast that could not be duplicated anywhere—Mme. Sembrich as Susanna, Mme. Eames as the countess, Miss Farrar as Cherubino, and Mr. Scotti as the count, who, together, completely demolished the legend that present-day artists cannot sing Mozart's music.

"Die Meistersinger" will be sung on Friday evening at the Metropolitan Opera House. On this occasion Carl Jörn of the Royal Opera House in Berlin will make his first appearance here as Walther von Stolzing, and Emmy Destinn will be heard for the first time as Eva.

Walter Damrosch and the New York Symphony Orchestra will give another Beethoven cycle at Carnegie Hall, at which will be performed the great master's nine symphonies grouped with other important works in chronological order. The dates are February 4, 11, 18, 25, March 4, 11.

The second series of regular subscription concerts of the New York Symphony Society will include a Tchaikovsky cycle, consisting of five concerts, February 21 and 28, March 7, 14, and 21.

Louis Étienne Ernest Rey, who, under the name of Ernest Reyer became one of the most famous of modern French opera composers, died January 5 in Toulon. He was born at Marseilles in 1823. Though he took music lessons as a child, he had no thought of a musical career. At sixteen, he went to Algiers as a government official, but continued to play the piano, and soon discovered that he could compose songs which the public liked. In 1848, he went to Paris and continued his musical education. Among his friends was Théophile Gautier, who provided him with the texts for several works, including the ballet "Sacountala." His first opera, "Maître Wolfram," was staged in 1854. Others followed, but his first great success was "Sigurd" (1884). His last grand opera, "Salammbo," was produced in 1892, and soon became popular. Reyer was also one of the leading French writers on musical topics. He followed Berlioz as critic of the *Journal des Débats*, and in 1875 issued a volume entitled "Notes de musique." For a time he was librarian of the Grand Opéra.

# Art.

## THE ROYAL ACADEMY'S NEW DEPARTURE.

LONDON, January 2.

A new departure by the Royal Academy is an event to be chronicled. For some years past now, Academicians have questioned the possibility or advisability of continuing the Winter Exhibition of Old Masters. For one thing, the supply of old masters in England is not inexhaustible. One year, there was a show of Leightons; another, a show of Watts. This winter, the problem has been solved by devoting the Winter Exhibition entirely to the collection of modern work, mostly British, made by the late George McCullough. It is really little more than another version of the Summer Exhibition, the pictures better hung, but no better in themselves, representative of nothing in particular, except the taste of one collector. Mr. McCullough was a rich Scotch-Australian, who began to collect, towards the end of the eighties, just at the waning of that happy period for the British artist when the Academician could not paint his pictures fast enough for his patrons, when he built palaces in Kensington and St. John's Wood. With the nineties, there was a marked change. The influence of outsiders, of Whistler above all, began to be felt, and there were disastrous sales of the great collections made by City men during the Academy's "boom." Millionaires decided that it was safer to buy old masters. Everybody knows upon what pitiful days, financially, British art has been steadily falling. But, through all the evil times, McCullough was one of the few who remained faithful and kept on conscientiously buying the pictures of the year at Burlington House.

Certainly, honesty compels one to confess that one's taste in these matters differs radically from Mr. McCullough's. The whole exhibition seemed like some monstrous ghost of the last twenty years of press views at the Academy. Here are the old favorites in the old centres: Leighton, with his models twisted into those impossible poses of The Garden of Hesperides, and arranged in that lifeless procession of The Daphnephoria, which his admirers of old always praised as so learned; Tadema, with the painstaking archæological elaboration of The Sculpture Gallery; Millais, with his Lingering Autumn, fatally facile and faithful to nature. And here were the old Academical favorites, Cooper, Goodall; here the old Academical anecdote in a Marcus Stone or an Andrew Gow; the old Academical landscape in a MacWhirter or a David Murray; here, the reminder

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

of the ascendancy of the Venetian subject, when De Blaas and Van Haanen, Luke Fildes and Henry Woods, were its prophets; here the realistic flights of the Newlyn School, and the "painted photographs," as the severe called them —the whole a record of dead fashions.

My impression was only strengthened when, among this array of pictures of the year, I found here and there paintings of great distinction or genuine interest. Of these, the most striking are two Whistlers, beautiful Whistlers that would be striking anywhere—the early portrait of himself in a white painting coat, holding his brushes, and the upright Valparaiso, Blue and Gold. The dignity of the portrait, with the subtle modelling, the animation, the character of the face, the harmony of the quiet color scheme, asserts itself in the midst of Academical banalities; and not even the strident hues of the Academical masterpiece can rob night of its beauty and mystery in the Valparaiso, with the boats drifting out of the blue shadows, the ships standing like vague phantoms against the dusky hills, and the pale lights trailing their gold through the misty waters. You cannot look at this nocturne again without again wondering at the painter's power to work anew on his canvas the miracle of night. Fortunately, there are other pictures in the collection to keep the Whistlers in countenance. In the same room with them hangs Master Baby, that large portrait group of mother and child, which is one of the best pictures ever painted by Sir W. Q. Orchardson. Another of the exceptions is a fine landscape, Marshlands, golden with sunlight, decorative in arrangement, by Cecil Lawson, who lived too short a time to carry to its full accomplishment the promise he gave. There are two interesting examples of William McTaggart, a Scotch artist, who is only beginning to be known outside of his own country, but to whom members of the Glasgow School look up as one of the chief influences in their development. His seas and coasts are full of light and air, and though he may not succeed, sometimes, in keeping his figures enveloped in the atmosphere —an example is Love's Whispers, now exhibited—it seems to be the excess of his interest in them that has forced them out of the picture. McCullough also patronized some of the younger Academicians, who prefer the study of nature to the repetition of old formulas, men like Clausen, Edward Stott, La Thangue, whose pictures I have already discussed in my recent notices of the Academy. There are also several Sargents, though none of his most distinguished; two typical canvases by J. J. Shannon; two of Edwin A. Abbey's large decorative historical arrangements; and one Watts, the Fata Morgana, which represents him but indifferently. There is an early Millais, Sir Isumbras at the Ford, the Pre-Raphaelite influence still strong in it. McCullough could sometimes stray from the Academical fold. He bought Burne-Jones: Love Among the Ruins, and the more anæmic Sleeping Princess and Psyche's Wedding. He bought landscapes by Mark Fisher and occasional paintings of the Glasgow School. And the collection is brought down to today with a small picture by Orpen, and a drawing by Rackham.

In the choice of foreign work, the collector's preference likewise ran to the Academic. Dagnan-Bouveret, who painted portraits of both Mr. and Mrs. McCullough, and Bouguereau are prominent. But here, too, there are exceptions. The present generation may not accept Bastien-Lepage as the genius he seemed to his contemporaries, but only by a long stretch of imagination could he be called Academic, while there is no denying that his work seemed revolutionary at the time, and that his influence was widespread. The more modern ideals of realism are very different, but in The Potato Gatherers, Pauvre Fauvette, and Pas Mèche, there is a sincerity in the very brutality with which nature is copied, that gives a certain dignity. It is a surprise to come upon one or two Dutch pictures, like the fairly good Dutch Landscape by James Maris, and the exquisite little At the Well, by Matthew Maris, as full of detail as a Pre-Raphaelite canvas, painted with a delicacy and refinement no Pre-Raphaelite ever rivalled, even approached. With one fine Harpignies, and two or three Thaulows, the list of good work from abroad is fairly complete.

The collection includes sculpture, and it is almost as great a surprise to find Rodin among the sculptors as Whistler among the painters. His Kiss, in marble, is set in the centre of the hall. The large bronze of the Orpheus and several others by John M. Swan reappear from Academies so recent that I need only mention their presence, and there are two small statuettes of St. George and Comedy and Tragedy, by Alfred Gilbert.

Popular Academicians are hardly a welcome exchange for Rembrandt and Velasquez, Holbein and Franz Hals, Reynolds and Gainsborough. It is to be hoped, therefore, that this year's new departure will not establish a precedent.

N. N.

---

Count Domenico Gnoli, librarian of the National Library at Rome, and one of the chief authorities on the actual monuments of the Holy City, has compiled under the title "Have Roma" (Rome: Walter Modes) a compendium of its arts and buildings. He takes up each topic chronologically, and illustrates it by views from the earliest to the latest examples. Thus, in the section "Churches," he begins with the Basilica, and comes down to the Torlonia Chapel in St. John Lateran. His narrative enables us to follow with unusual clearness the evolution of architectural styles, of designs, and of special parts. The same is true of the chapters devoted respectively to sepulchral monuments, to piazzas and fountains, and to gardens and villas. In a brief epilogue, Count Gnoli mentions the changes and constructions since 1870. Not least interesting are three reproductions of plans of the city in 1490, 1600, and 1870. The hundreds of half-tones admirably illustrate the text, and the book, octavo in size, is easily carried. The author has penetrating ideas not less than a firm grasp of facts. As a sample, we quote this pregnant sentence:

> The law which forbade burial in churches has almost broken asunder the bonds between the church and life, and has quenched the pious affections for which it was the sanctuary of the family and of the community, isolating it in the cold solemnity of worship.

Albrecht Dürer has recently been made the theme of two interesting publications, both of which regard him as a man rather than as an artist. One, by E. Heidrich, is entitled "Albrecht Dürer's schriftlicher Nachlass, Familienchronik, Gedenkbuch, Tagebuch der niederländischen Reisen, Briefe, Reime, etc." An introduction is furnished by H. W. Wölfflin (Berlin: J. Bard). The other is a smaller work, by M. Zucker, "Albrecht Dürer in seinen Briefen" (Leipzig and Berlin: B. G. Teubner). This work, which is illustrated, constitutes the second volume of the series Deutsche Charakterköpfe.

A recent discovery made by the Italian excavators at Phæstos, in Crete, is of peculiar interest. At the northeastern corner of the site were found a number of tablets, consisting of round discs about six inches in diameter, covered on both sides with symbols which are not drawn or engraved after the usual style, but each printed from a special type. We have thus an example of typography going back about 4,000 years ago—fresh evidence of the extraordinary inventiveness of the early Cretans. The signs used on these tablets are heads, human forms, figures of animals, birds and fish, trees and plants, as well as pictures of utensils. They are arranged between lines drawn in the form of spirals from the centre to the periphery of the discs.

Fresh discoveries have been made at Prinia, a Greek site near Gortyna, in Crete. The excavators explored the remains of the archaic Greek temple, previously discovered. Remains of a second temple were brought to light, differing from the first in having a back chamber, or *opisthodomos*, evidently used as a storehouse, as in it were found large storing vessels decorated with reliefs. Below the hill to the southwest appears to have been a cemetery. Here was unearthed a *stele* with a relief of the figure of a woman working the distaff. Further discoveries on this site are expected.

The National Academy of Design will hold its spring exhibition in the galleries of the Fine Arts Society in this city from March 13, to April 17. The jury of selection consists of J. W. Alexander, Hugo Ballin, William Verplanck Birney,

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Carlton T. Chapman, Walter Clark, B. West Clinedinst, E. Irving Couse, Elliott Daingerfield, Louis Paul Dessar, Paul Dougherty, Frank Vincent Dumond, C. Warren Eaton, Ben Foster, Albert L. Groll, William H. Howe, Francis C. Jones, William Sergeant Kendall, J. Francis Murphy, Leonard Ochtman, Walter L. Palmer, Edward W. Redfield, William Thorne, R. W. Van Boskerck, Douglas Volk, H. W. Watrous, J. Alden Weir, and William J. Whittemore. Samuel Isham, Frederick W. Kost, and Herbert Adams will form the hanging committee.

An international exhibition of pictorial photography will be held at the National Arts Club, beginning February 2. This will be the most comprehensive and representative exhibition of the kind ever held in this country, comprising work by the leading pictorial photographers, both at home and abroad.

Among the exhibitions at the dealers' galleries in this city are sculptures by Henry Clews, jr., at Knoedler's, till January 23; works by D'Espagnat and Zandomeneghi, Durand-Ruel's, January 30; paintings, J. H. Jurres, Kraushaar's, January 30; portraits and other works by Howard Gardiner Cushing, Montross's, January 30; watercolors, Henry Plymton Spaulding, Klackner's January 31; early Spanish art, Ehrich's, February 1.

In place of Achille Jacquet, deceased, the French Académie des Beaux-Arts, has elected the engraver Charles-Albert Waltner, a native of Paris, who won the Prix de Rome in 1868. He is best known for his renderings of Rembrandt, and also of Gainsborough, Lawrence, and Hoppner.

# Finance.

## A YEAR OF REFORMED BANKING.

Many evils and abuses which the panic of 1907 brought into strong light have been left untouched by the reforms which that episode indicated as desirable or perhaps necessary. The inelastic currency has not been remodelled; few people take seriously the so-called emergency device enacted by Congress last spring. Nothing has been done to safeguard national banks against the results of an excessive "redeposit" of their own reserves in banks of a distant city—perhaps the chief cause of the general blockade of depositors' funds which occurs in every great American panic. But in one direction there has been quick and thorough reform, which will probably prevent recurrence of the worst phase of the New York panic of fifteen months ago. Looking back at the years of misgiving over the restrictions upon trust companies, and over the exploits in "chain banking" by unscrupulous promoters, and recalling the attitude of helplessness in the face of the recognized danger, which was taken by the most experienced financiers, one finds it difficult to realize that in the twelve past months the laws governing these institutions have been so completely reconstructed as to make them a model for both State and national legislation. If, under the strain of 1907, New York showed points of weakness, such as were exhibited by no other financial market, at all events it is New York which has promptly taken the lead in salutary reform.

The credit for this achievement belongs largely to the patient and persistent labors of the Superintendent of Banking, Clark Williams, who came into office on the very eve of the crisis of 1907. In his report of a year ago, Mr. Williams reviewed the catastrophe and set forth his proposals of reform. In his second annual report, submitted to the Legislature last week, he reviews the achievements of the after-panic year. After referring to the excellent work of the bankers' commission named by Gov. Hughes, Superintendent Williams says:

> Twenty bills which were drawn in the department and introduced as committee measures, became law. Not less than one hundred and fifty measures affecting banking institutions were scrutinized by the superintendent or his deputies. To the credit of our legislative system it may be noted that of this vast volume of proposed statutes, no measure which might appropriately be termed "panic legislation" received the approval of the banking committees.

The important changes summarized by Mr. Williams apply a conservative cash reserve requirement to the trust companies; prohibit the ownership by one banking institution of more than 10 per cent. of the stock of another; restrict the opportunities of the "dummy director" by stipulating ownership of at least ten shares as a qualification for the position of director; require, as a preliminary to the opening of branches by trust companies and the organization of new banks, the formal assent of the banking superintendent; reduce the maximum loan to be made to a single borrower from 40 per cent. of the lending institution's capital and surplus to 25 per cent.; regulate with great precision the "syndicate loan"; empower a savings bank, with the department's consent, to raise money in an emergency through pledge of its securities; and place in the hands of the Banking Department, instead of in the hands of private individuals with a "pull," the duties of liquidation and receivership of insolvent concerns.

This mere enumeration gives a fair notion of the extent to which the evils exposed in the stress of panic have been remedied. To take only two instances: The receivership of the Home Bank of Brooklyn, the first under the auspices of the Banking Department, was completed in forty-two days, with counsel and receivers' fees of $666, whereas the Knickerbocker Trust receivership, under the old law, lasted five months and involved fees of $80,000; and that of eight other insolvent banks and trust companies in Greater New York lasted on the average six months, with fees ranging from a minimum of $20,500 to a maximum of $67,000. Moreover, the prompt return of patronage and prosperity to the trust companies which were subjected to so severe a trial in 1907 has been in great part a result of public knowledge that the old order had passed away, that conservative safeguards had been devised, and that the State was really protecting the depositor's interests.

With so comprehensive a programme already enacted, the Superintendent naturally has only a few specific recommendations to make, but they are important. First, he urges, as he did last year, that each kind of financial institution be kept within its own proper field. He notes such encroachments as the operation of interest or "savings bank" departments by commercial banks and department stores, and especially the payment of high interest on small deposits, with a view to drawing patronage away from the savings banks. The second suggestion, addressed particularly to the banking institutions themselves more than to the Legislature, is that New York city trust companies and "non-member" State banks be formally admitted into the Clearing House. This is sound policy; and if, for reasons of tradition or from desire to retain unchanged the present machinery of clearing-house supervision, the existing Clearing-House Association is unwilling to admit the trust companies on an equal footing, then the trust companies ought to organize a clearing house for themselves. Mr. Williams justly remarks:

> Had such an association of trust companies existed last year, whether or not within the present Clearing House, the action finally taken by the then newly organized trust companies' committee would have lessened to a great extent the general financial distress.

Taken in connection with the events of the past twelve months, the gratifying record of the Banking Department abundantly warrants the Superintendent's closing words:

> The panic, the suspension, the resumptions, the general house-cleaning, the remedial legislation, the material increase in reserves, the increasing appreciation of trusteeship, the growing conservatism, and the complete return of public confidence—these factors, together with the reorganization of the department, have contributed to place the general banking system of the State of New York upon a basis of which your honorable body may be justly proud.

## BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Ayres, Steven B. Bridge. Brentano's.
Beech, Mervyn, W. H. The Tidong Dialects of Borneo. Henry Frowde. $1.75.
Belabre, Baron de. Rhodes of the Knights. Henry Frowde. $9.75.
Benson, Arthur Christopher. Poems. John Lane. $1.50 net.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Boehm, Theobald. The Flute and Flute-Playing. Cleveland: D. C. Miller.
Bond, Francis. Fonts and Font Covers. Henry Frowde.
Buchanan, James. Works. Edited by John Bassett Moore. Vol. VI. Philadelphia: Lippincott.
Bureau of American Ethnology. Twenty-sixth Annual Report. 1904-1905. Washington: Government Printing Office.
Cæsar's Commentaries on the Gallic War. Translated by T. Rice Holmes. Macmillan. $1.40 net.
Cambridge Modern History. Vol. XI. The Growth of Nationalities. Macmillan. $4 net.
Carter, B. Frank. French Word-Lists. Henry Holt. 25 cts.
Chamberlain, Arthur Henry. Standards in Education: Including Industrial Training. American Book Co. $1.
Coleman, S. E. New Laboratory Manual of Physics. American Book Co. 60 cents.
Collections of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Edited by Reuben Gold Thwaites. Vol. XVIII. Published by the Society.
Compayré, Gabriel. Yoan Gall, Le Pupille de la Marine. Edited by O. B. Super. Henry Holt. 35 cts.
Coptic (Sahidic) Version of Certain Books of the Old Testament. From a Papyrus in the British Museum. Edited by Herbert Thompson. Henry Frowde.
Cummings, Horace H. Nature Study by Grades: Teachers' Book for Primary Grades. American Book Co. $1.
Dickinson, Thomas H., and Roe, Frederick W. Nineteenth Century English Prose: Critical Essays. American Book Co. $1.
Dodd, Walter Fairleigh. Modern Constitutions. 2 vols. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. $5.42.
D'Ooge, Martin L. The Acropolis of Athens. Macmillan. $4 net.
Driesch, Hans. The Science and Philosophy of the Organism. Vol. II. Macmillan. $3 net.
Ewing, Juliana Horatia. A Flat Iron for a Farthing, or Some Passages in the Life of an Only Son. Macmillan. $1 net.
Forman, S. E. Essentials in Civil Government. American Book Co. 60 cents.
Foster's Complete Hoyle: An Encyclopedia of Games. Frederick A. Stokes Co. $2.50 net.
Ganong, William F. A Laboratory Course in Plant Physiology. Henry Holt. $1.75.
Gibbons, James, Cardinal. Discourses and Sermons. John Murphy Co.
Gilliam, Charles Frederic. A Victorious Defeat: The Story of a Franchise. Boston: Roxburgh Publishing Co.
Habberton, John. Budge and Toddie, or Helen's Babies at Play. Grosset & Dunlop. $1.
Haertel, Martin Henry. German Literature in American Magazines, 1846 to 1880. Madison: University of Wisconsin.
Hancock, E. L. Applied Mechanics for Engineers: A Text-Book for Engineering Students. Macmillan. $2 net.
Handy Reference Atlas of the World. Edited by J. G. Bartholomew. Dutton. $2.50 net.
Haultain, Arnold. The Mystery of Golf. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co.
Hawn, William. All Around the Civil War, or Before and After. Wynkoop Hallenbeck Crawford Co.
Hepburn, A. Barton. Artificial Waterways and Commercial Development. Macmillan. $1 net.
Hügel, Friedrich von. The Mystical Element of Religion as Studied in Saint Catherine of Genoa and Her Friends. 2 vols. Dutton. $6 net.
Jackson, F. Hamilton. The Shores of the Adriatic: The Austrian Side. Dutton. $6 net.
Jackson, S. Trevena. Lincoln's Use of the Bible. Eaton & Mains. 25 cents net.
Johnson, Florence Kendrick. Large Meals for Little Money. People's University Extension Society.
Kellogg, John Azor. Capture and Escape: A Narrative of Army and Prison Life. Wisconsin History Commission.
Kingsley, Rose G. Roses and Rose Growing. Macmillan. $2 net.
Krauskopf, Joseph. Prejudice, Its Genesis and Exodus. Bloch Publishing Co.
Kroeger, Alice Bertha. Guide to the Study and Use of Reference Books. Boston: American Library Association.
Lansing, Marion Florence. Tales of Old England in Prose and Verse. Ginn. 35 cents.
Levi, Eugenia. Lirica Italiana nel Cinquecento e nel Seicento fino all' Arcadia. G. E. Stechert & Co. $4.50.
Lillie, Frank R. The Development of the Chick: An Introduction to Embryology. Henry Holt. $4.
MacConnell, Marie F. Standard Songs and Choruses for High Schools. American Book Co. 75 cents.
Macnaughtan, S. Three Miss Graemes. Dutton. $1.50.
Major, Gertrude Keene. The Revelation in the Mountain. Cochrane Publishing Co.
Marden, Orison Swett. Peace, Power, and Plenty. Crowell. $1 net.
Marique, Pierre, and Gilson, Henry Brockway. Exercises in French Composition. Ginn, 40 cents.
Maxim, Hiram S. Artificial and Natural Flight. Macmillan.
McDonald, Lucretia S. Checkerberry. Cochrane Publishing Co.
Mifflin, Lloyd. Toward the Uplands: Later Poems. Henry Frowde.
Moses, Barr. Dreaming River. Frederick A. Stokes Co. $1.
Nelson, C. A. Ed. La Fille de Roland. Boston D. C. Heath & Co. 30 cents.
Nichols, A. B. Modern German Prose: A Reader for Advanced Classes. Henry Holt.
Noyes, Alfred. William Morris. Macmillan. 75 cents net.
Oswell, G. D. Sketches of Rulers of India. Vols. III and IV. Henry Frowde.
Oxford English Dictionary. Vol. VII, section from Premisal to Prophesies. Edited by James A. H. Murray. Henry Frowde. $1.90.
Parker, Theodore. The Transient and Permanent to Christianity; Historic Americans. Boston: American Unitarian Association. $1 net, each.
Parmelee, Maurice. Principles of Anthropology and Sociology in Their Relations to Criminal Procedure. Macmillan. $1.25 net.
Pasture, Mrs. Henry de la. Catherine's Child. Dutton. $1.20 net.
Read, C. Stanford. Fads and Feeding. Dutton. $1 net.
Richardson, Daniel S. Trail Dust: A Little Round-up of Western Verse. San Francisco: A. M. Robertson. $1.25.
Schiller's Jungfrau von Orleans. Edited by Warren Washburn Florer. American Book Co. 70 cents.
Shakespeare's All's Well that Ends Well. Edited by W. G. Boswell-Stone. Duffield & Co. $1.
Smith, Goldwin. No Refuge but in Truth. Toronto: William Tyrell & Co.
Spruce, Richard. Notes of a Botanist on the Amazon and Andes. 2 vols. Macmillan. $6.50 net.
Starr, Laura B. The Doll Book. Outing Publishing Co. $3 net.
Statius's Silvæ. Translated by D. A. Slater. Henry Frowde.
Todd, Mary Ives. An American Madonna: A Story of Love. Binghamton Book Mfg. Co.
Transactions of the Third International Congress for the History of Religions. 2 vols. Henry Frowde. $6.75.
Turbervile's Booke of Hunting, 1576. Henry Frowde. $2.50.
Vilas, William Freeman. A View of the Vicksburg Campaign. Wisconsin History Commission.
Vlasto, Solon I., and Gortzis, Nikolas. Historia Ton Henomenon Politeion Tes Amerikes. Atlantis Inc., N. Y.
Watt, George. The Commercial Products of India. Dutton. $5 net.
Who's Who, 1909. An Annual Biographical Dictionary. Macmillan. $2.50 net.
Wilkinson, William Cleaver. Some New Literary Valuations. Funk & Wagnalls. $1.30 net.

*LIBRARIANS SHOULD NOTE*

**N. L. Britton's**
**NORTH AMERICAN TREES**
American Nature Series. 8vo. 775 *illus.* $7 *net.*
"This splendid book."—*The Dial.*

**W. A. Locy's**
**BIOLOGY AND ITS MAKERS**
8vo. 123 *illus.* $2.75 *net.*
"Whether the reader be layman, or a college student, or a biologist whose life-work is nearing completion, this summary of achievements will be an inspiration. A well-chosen reading-list, an excellent index."—*The Nation.*

**C. W. Colby's**
**CANADIAN TYPES OF THE OLD REGIME.**
8vo. 18 *illus.* $2.75 *net.*
"Gives much that is new. In the field of Canadian history it is the most readable book that has appeared for many a day."—*W. B. Munro in American Historical Review.*

**R. S. Holland's**
**THE BUILDERS OF UNITED ITALY**
*Large* 12mo. *With portraits.* $2.00 *net.*
Historical biographies of Alfieri, Manzoni, Gioberti, Manin, Mazzini, Cavour, Garibaldi, and Victor Emmanuel.
"Popular, but not flimsy."—*The Nation.*
*DETAILS ON REQUEST.*

**HENRY HOLT & CO.,** 34 W. 33d St. NEW YORK

*New Edition Now Ready.*

**The Florentine Painters of the Renaissance**

With an essay on their genius and a full list of their works in British and Continental Galleries. *Third Edition. Revised and Enlarged. Crown 8vo. $1.50 net.*

"A highly competent student of Italian art; a practitioner of the most modern methods of investigation."—*London Times.*

"This little book is written by a man who knows his subject well and who is thoroughly in sympathy with the spirit of the Renaissance."—*Standard.*

**G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS,** NEW YORK and LONDON

**WHY WORRY?**
You need not, if you read Dr. George L. Walton's new book on the subject. Cloth, $1.00 net. Postpaid $1.10.
**J. B. LIPPINCOTT CO., Philadelphia.**

**IN A GREAT**
**Public Library**

The Office Clerk is instructed to cut out the advertising columns of THE NATION as a guide for the Purchasing Committee.

To many libraries and to many individuals, books advertised in THE NATION are at once recommended as desirable.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED